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WM. DOEL,
No 1602.
SOUTHWICK,
WILTS.

J. Grant







Speen Church

The River En . or . Enbourn Stream

en West Fields and the Andover Road . represent the position

re the Battle of September 20th 1643

and Tents on the West side show the position in which the

t belonged to Essex's Army

nd the Enbourn Wash . represent Essex's Army encamped

ourn & the Wash on the night previous to the battle of Sept 20 1643

e the Greenham Mills are situated

ification that was carried by the Parliament's Army in the

27th 1644

that the Earl of Essex took September 21st 1643 being the

e Battle of Newbury

e Ham Bridge

THE

HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES

OF

NEWBURY AND ITS ENVIRONS,

INCLUDING TWENTY-EIGHT PARISHES,

SITUATE IN THE

COUNTY OF BERKS:

ALSO

A CATALOGUE OF PLANTS,

FOUND IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD.

SPEENHAMLAND:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HALL AND MARSH;

AND SOLD BY

SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, AND CO., STATIONERS' HALL COURT, LONDON

M.DCCC.XXXIX.



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PREFACE.

At the commencement of the work, which they have now brought to a conclusion, the editors stated their object to be "to embrace historical, antiquarian, ecclesiastical, and other interesting topics relating to the town and neighbourhood." As to the manner in which this undertaking has been accomplished, it is for the public to decide. The editors, therefore, throw themselves on the judgment of their readers, being fully aware that those who presume to come before the public have no right to deprecate criticism, and that this work, if deemed worthy the notice of the critic, must be exposed to those animadversions to which all other publications are fairly and usually liable.

They venture only to hope that it may receive that candour and indulgence which the circumstances, and the defects and imperfections of a work of this kind so much need.

"—Et hanc veniam petimusque damusque vicissim."

They submit that if there be any publication to which the rigid rules and strictures of criticism may be sparingly and leniently applied, this is of that character. The wish of the editors and of their auxiliaries has been to preserve and promulgate information, both of a local and of a general interest.

Without affecting literary attainments, they have been chiefly anxious, as far as their means would enable them, to exhibit diligence, research, and general accuracy. It may also be remarked, that much of the most interesting matter which is brought to light by works of this kind, is known only by those who, in the retirement of private life, or of their village, do not aspire to the character of authorship, and who, with few pretensions to those qualifications, are solely actuated by the desire of rescuing from oblivion many facts and incidents which would not by other means be preserved and

made known. If the severe judgment of the critic be applied to works of this character, it is apprehended that it may deter others from collecting and publishing those "disjecta membra" of history and antiquity, which are so profusely scattered over England. Should this be the result, much pleasing and useful historical and antiquarian lore may be utterly lost, but which, through means like the present, may be brought into notice, and, in the hands of accomplished scholars and of writers of greater experience, be rendered available for more valuable productions, and for more important objects. If the exertions of the contributors to this work should, in a small degree, conduce to this end, their task will not have been altogether unattended with success.

To those gentlemen who have lent their assistance, and have contributed various articles and intelligence, the editors offer their sincere thanks.

Without such co-operation and aid, this work would necessarily have been far less comprehensive, and infinitely more imperfect than it is.

For the kind and indulgent patronage which has been extended to this undertaking, the editors feel

especially grateful, and they trust, now that it is brought to a close, that it will be found deserving of a continuation of the support which it has hitherto experienced.

Speenhamland, July, 1839.

CONTENTS.

ALDERMASTON.

Aldermaston, manor of, 248
church and house, 250
Inscriptions in the church, *ib.*
Almshouses, *ib.*

ALDWORTH.

Aldworth, manor of, 234
church, 232
Effigies of Crusaders in church, 235

AVINGTON.

Avington, manor of, 279
church and its Saxon architecture, *ib.*
Inscriptions in the church, 280

BEENHAM.

Beenham church, 244
Inscription in the church, *ib.*
Stackhouse, rev. T. eccentric habits of, *ib.*

BOXFORD.

Boxford, manor of, 266
church, 267
Inscriptions in the church, *ib.*
Westbrook, manor of, 266
Benefactions, 268
Hangmanstone lane, *ib.*

BRIMPTON.

Brimpton, manor of, 247
church, 248
Inscriptions in the church, *ib.*

BUCKLEBURY.

Bucklebury, manor of, 205
church, 208
List of the vicars, 209
Inscriptions in the church, 210
Marlstone, manor of, 206
chapel, 207
Inscriptions in the chapel, *ib.*

CHADDLEWORTH.

Chaddleworth, manor of, 253
church, *ib.*
Inscriptions in the church, 255
School, 258
Poughley, monastery of, *ib.*

CHIEVELEY.

Chieveley, manor of, 261
church, *ib.*
Inscriptions in the church, 262
Benefactions, 263
Winterbourn Maine, manor of, 261
chapel, *ib.*
Inscriptions in the chapel, *ib.*
Leckhampstead, manor of, 265
chapel, *ib.*
Oare, manor of, *ib.*
chapel, *ib.*
Prior's Court, manor of, 266
North Heath school, *ib.*

COMPTON.

Compton church, 222
Inscriptions in the church, *ib.*
Perborough Castle, 223

COMPTON, *(continued.)*
Remains of an old British town, 224
Old British road called "Grimsdyke," 225
Nachededorne, supposed situation of, *ib.*

DONNINGTON,
(See Shaw cum Donnington)

ENBORNE.
Enborne, manors of, 298
antient custom, 299
church, *ib.*
Inscriptions in the church, *ib.*

FRILSHAM.
Frilsham, parish of, 231

HAMSTEAD MARSHALL.
Hamstead Marshall, manor of, 296
church, 298
Inscriptions in the church, *ib.*
Benefactions, *ib.*

HAMPSTEAD NORRIS.
Hampstead Norris church, 215
Inscriptions on the bells, 217
Monumental inscriptions, *ib.*
Grimsbury castle, 218
Skeletons found, 220
Adelaide chapel, Hermitage, 222

INKPEN.
Inkpen, manor of, 286
church, *ib.*
Inscriptions in the church, *ib.*
Effigy of a Crusader in the church, *ib.*
Benefactions, 288
River Auborn, rise of the, *ib.*

KINTBURY.
Kintbury, manor of, 281
church, 282
Inscriptions in the church, *ib.*

KINTBURY, *(continued.)*
Kintbury Holt, Balsdon, Tidcomb, Anville, and High and Low Denford, manors of, 282
Denford chapel, *ib.*

NEWBURY.
Newbury, historical account of, 1
antient market-house, 2
bridge, when built, *ib.*
supposed origin of, *ib.*
manor of, *ib.*
castle, siege of, 4
first battle of, 5
second battle of, 26
ecclesiastical history of, 73
doctrines of the reformation upheld in, 91
martyrs burnt at, *ib.*
church, trial of Julins Palmer in, *ib.*
rectors of, 104
church, accident in, 113
monumental inscriptions in, 80
civil government of, under its antient charter, 129
public charities of, 132
royal visits to, 139
churchwardens' book, extracts from, 151
Jack of, where supposed to have been married, 89
Jack of, extract from the will of, 78
Jack of, grant of arms to the eldest son of, 149
the different religious denominations in, 121
St. Bartholomew's chapel, alms-houses, and foundation school, 88
The Litten, 89
The presbyterian meeting-house, when built, and ministers thereof, 122
The independent chapel, when built, and ministers thereof, 126

NEWBURY, (*continued*)
The quaker's meeting-house, 126
The particular baptists, and ministers thereof, 127
The Wesleyan methodists, 128
Fishery, 147
Ballad, antient, ("the Newberrie archers,") 138
Memoir of Dr. Sprint, (note) 88
Dr. Twiss, 105
rev. B. Woodbridge, 108
rev. J. Bicheno, 127
Miss Penrose, lines to the memory of, by her brother, 116
Peat deposit, 140
Caledonian ox, head and horns of, 141
Antient spear heads, 142
steelyard, 147
Lords of the fees of Newbury, names of, 301
Extract from the Lansdown MSS. in the British Museum, 301
Latitude and longitude of Newbury church steeple, 302
Progresses of queen Elizabeth and king James I., 304
Catalogue of plants found in the neighbourhood, 310

SANDLEFORD.
Sandleford priory, 89
chapel and monument of a Crusader, 90
Extract from the Newbury terrier, *ib.*

SHAW CUM DONNINGTON.
Shaw, manor of, 172
house, 173
Inscription on a brass plate in Shaw house, 57
Donnington castle, historical account of, 67
ground plan, 72
Donnington priory house, 175
Donnington grove house, *ib.*
Church and rectors, 177

SHAW CUM DONNINGTON, (*continued.*)
Donnington Hospital, its rules and ordinances, 182
James, duke of Chandos, memoir of, 189
Benefactions, 189

GREAT OR WEST SHEFFORD.
Manor of, 275
Hug Ditch Court, 276
Church, *ib.*
Inscriptions in the church, *ib.*
Benefactions, 278
Anecdote of the rev. Mr. Dixon, rector, 279

LITTLE OR EAST SHEFFORD.
Manor of, 274
Church, *ib.*
Alabaster monument in the church, *ib.*
Inscriptions in the church, 275
Benefactions, *ib.*

SPEEN.
Antient Spinæ, 153
Roman Roads, 158
Speen, manor of, 161
church, 163
Inscriptions in the church, 164
Monuments by Bacon, Canova, and Chantry, 167
"The Chapel," formerly in Speenhamland, *ib.*
St. Mary's Chapel, Speenhamland, 168
Echo well, ("Our Lady's,") at Speen, 170
Bequests to the poor, 169
Speen moor enclosure, 170
Bagnor, manufactories at, 171

THATCHAM.
Thatcham, manor of, 193
church, architectural description of, 199
Inscriptions in the church, 201
Greenham, manor of, 196

THATCHAM, (*continued.*)
Pedigree of the antient family of Croft, 302
Chapel, 196
Inscriptions in the chapel, 197
Crookham, manor of, *ib.*
Henwick, manor of, 198
Midgham, manor of, *ib.*
chapel, 199
Inscriptions in the chapel, *ib.*
Lady Bolingbroke, Latin ode to, by Phillips, 194
Blue-coat school, 203

WASING.
Wasing, manor of, 246
church, 247
Inscriptions in the church, *ib.*

WELFORD.
Welford, manor of, 269
church, *ib.*
Inscriptions in the church, 270

WEST WOODHAY.
West Woodhay, manor of, 288
church, 289
Inscriptions in the church, *ib*
Memoir of sir B. Rudyerd. 290

WOOLHAMPTON.
Woolhampton, manor of, 245
church, *ib.*
Inscriptions in the church, 246

YATTENDON.
Yattendon, manor of, 226
church, *ib.*
Inscriptions on the bells, 227
Monumental inscriptions, 228
Curious epitaph in the churchyard, 229
Miraculous well, and chalk mines, 230

LIST OF ENGRAVINGS.

Map of Three Miles round Newbury Frontispiece
Old Market-house page 2
Shaw House 57
Donnington Castle 67
Newbury Church 73
St. Bartholomew's Hospital 88
The Litten.. 89
Pearce's Door-way 136
Antient Carvings 140
Head of the Caledonian Ox 141
Shaw House, east view.. 173
Donnington Hospital 182
Aldworth Church 232
Remains of the antient Manor-house at Little Shefford 274
Alabaster Monument in Little Shefford Church .. *ib.*

THE

HISTORY OF NEWBURY,

AND ITS ENVIRONS.

NEWBURY is a large market town, perhaps one of the most considerable for corn, in the kingdom, situated on the banks of the river Kennet, which flows nearly through the centre of the town, and contributes at once to the health, beauty, and prosperity of the place.

The Kennet joins the Thames at Caversham, a little below Reading, a distance of something more than seventeen miles. The road from London to Bath and Bristol runs through Speenhamland, a populous hamlet of the parish of Speen, immediately adjoining Newbury, from which it is divided by only a small brook. It is distant from London 56, Bath 52, Oxford 26, Winchester 24, and Southampton 36 miles. The road from Oxford to the latter place passes through the town. From its locality, and the number of coaches constantly travelling, there is a ready and convenient access, not only to London, but to any other part of the kingdom. The town stands in a very fertile valley, and the country around is distinguished for its picturesque beauty, affording a great variety of agreeable walks and rides.

The population of Newbury was, according to a census taken in 1821, 5347: it is supposed to have increased much since that time, and that it may now be estimated as near 7000. Speenhamland may be considered as containing a population of about 900.

Newbury comprises three principal streets, placed somewhat in the form of a Y; Northbrook, Bartholomew, and Cheap Street, with St. Mary's Hill, a continuation of the latter. The Market Place, which is nearly in the centre of the town, is spacious. There was till lately an ancient Market House and Town Hall standing in the Market Place, where the county Easter sessions and the four borough sessions were held. In consequence of the dilapidated state of this building it was recently pulled down by the corporation.

Until the year 1770, there was only a wooden bridge over the Kennet, having houses and shops upon it, which was then removed, and in its place, the present neat and substantial stone bridge of one arch was erected by the corporation.

It is very difficult to form an opinion as to the origin of the town, which is of great antiquity; some conjecturing, with much probability, from its name, Newbury, antiently Newbir, or Neubiri,* that it was so called from the relation which it had to the old Roman town of Spinæ, now the village of Speen. Lyson, in his Berkshire, deems this conjecture erroneous, because, at the time of taking the Norman survey, Speen, or Spene, was only a village, and Newbury was then a town of considerable importance, known by the Saxon name of Uluritone, which he suggests, might have been a corruption of Ulwardetone, from Ulward, who possessed it in the reign of Edward the Confessor. But this may be quite compatible with the above conjecture, as in the interval, the Roman town of Spinæ might have dwindled into a village, and Newbury might have risen into some importance. Spinæ having owed its origin to the Romans, was likely to fall into decay on their quitting the island, and the more convenient situation of Newbury, and its contiguity to the river were probable circumstances to bring it into consideration.

It is stated by Camden, that on the death of Thomas, Earl of Perche, in 1216, his heir, the bishop of Chalons, sold the manor of Newbury, which had been the property of his ancestor Ernulfus de Hesdin, to William Marshall, earl of Pembroke. The only manor

* In the time of John, it was spelt Nubiry and Neubiry.
In that of Edward I., Neubury.
In that of Edward IV., Nubury.
In that of Henry VI., Newebury.
In that of Elizabeth, Newbery and Newberye.



The old Market-House and Town-Hall, pulled down in 1827.



mentioned in the Doomsday survey, as belonging to Ernulfus de Hesdin, is that of Uluritone, in the Hundred of Tacheham (now Thatcham,) which hundred is now comprised within that of Faircross. Lyson states that it must then have been a *town*, for there were 51 hagæ or houses which paid a tax or quit rent to the lord, and that these hagæ are mentioned only in the description of *towns*, and that no mention is made of any at Spene.

In the reign of king John, the manor of Newbury belonged to the earl of Perche, and was, from some cause, confiscated to the crown. In the Norman roll, in the Tower of London, anno 1204, there was an extent of the value of the manor of Newbury, parcel of the honor of the earl of Perche. King John, it is supposed, regranted this manor to the Earl of Perche. Another account represents that this nobleman having, shortly after the death of John, shut himself up with the French army, which he commanded, in the city of Lincoln, was slain in the assault of that city by Pembroke, then the earl marshal and protector of the kingdom, who seized on the estates of the earl of Perche, amongst which, it appears on record, was the manor of Newbury, and that afterwards Pembroke obtained a confirmation thereof from the bishop of Chalons, the brother of the earl of Perche. Rot: Hund: Berks.* This statement, though agreeing in substance with Camden, gives a more minute and somewhat different account of the way in which the earl of Pembroke became possessed of the manor of Newbury, and we submit, that it is the more probable one. The earl of Perche having fallen in a battle, in which the earl of Pembroke was the victor, and who at the time representing the sovereignty of the kingdom, was likely to avail himself of the oppportunity to seize on and appropriate to his own use the estates of the rebellious and vanquished earl.

The manor of Newbury passed through a variety of hands from

* The principal part of the documentary information contained in this latter statement is derived from a note in the published case of the Newbury Toll cause, of Dewe v. Samuels, p. 7. This case, with some very interesting particulars respecting the rights of the corporation, was published, as it is supposed, by the late Mr. Hedges, of Newbury, who was the solicitor for the plaintiff, in a successful resistance of the claim of the corporation for a Toll Traverse or Thorough. To any one who feels an interest in that subject, the publication alluded to will afford much information.

this period till the 14th year of the reign of Edward IV., when it reverted to the crown, and as it is supposed, remained therein till the reign of Charles I., when by a grant of the first year of his reign, it was, in consideration of £50, and an annual payment of £25 4s. 2½d., made over to the corporation of Newbury, in which body it has remained to the present time, and the crown continues to receive from the corporation the above annual sum. Whilst in the crown, the manor was occasionally honoured by being assigned, as a jointure, to the queens of England. Henry VIII. assigned it to his queen, the lady Jane Seymour, who, shortly afterwards dying in child-bed with Edward VI., escaped, perhaps, a more lamentable termination of her life. James I. also assigned it as a dower to his queen, Anne of Denmark, the mother of Charles I.

There seems no doubt that the earls of Perche had a castle at Newbury, and tradition fixes the site somewhere near the present wharf, on the Kennet, and this is not an improbable situation, as the river would be both a defence and an accommodation to the castle. Not the slightest vestige, however, of any such building is now traceable. The official arms of the corporation of Newbury are: *on a mount, a castle with three domed towers, on each a pennon:* legend, "*Burgus Newberie;*" derived most likely from the tradition of or some connexion with the castle. A piece of ground, near the wharf, belonging to the corporation of Newbury, is called the Hospital Meadow, probably from having been, formerly, attached to the hospital of the castle.

The town and castle of Newbury were of some importance and the latter of considerable strength, so early as the reign of Stephen. That monarch, after having failed in some fruitless endeavours to crown his eldest son, Eustace, earl of Boulogne, was obliged to return to the prosecution of the civil war, which then ravaged the kingdom. He commenced in the year 1152 an attack on the town and castle of Newbury, of which he became master, after a siege of some weeks. It may be conjectured that the castle suffered severely from the effects of this siege, and from that period, fell into rapid decay, as no mention appears to be made of it, as existing, in any subsequent history. This conjecture is strengthened by recollecting that it was a part of the policy of Henry II., shortly after the death of Stephen, on which event he

obtained the peaceable possession of the kingdom, to dismantle and destroy the numerous castles which had been erected by Stephen and the barons, during the preceding civil wars, all of which were burnt or levelled to the ground, except a few, that from their situation, were deemed necessary for the defence of the kingdom. The castle of Newbury was, therefore, likely to be either completely demolished, or to be allowed to decay by the more slow, but not less certain hand of time.

The First Battle of Newbury between King Charles I. and the Parliament.

Newbury was also the scene of two battles during the civil wars of Charles I. In giving an account of these, we shall follow, in the first place, lord Clarendon, quoting, in many instances, the exact words and description of that historian, and comparing his account with that given by other writers. By this means we hope to lay before our readers as accurate an outline of those interesting events as the length of time and the changes which have taken place on the face of the country will permit. It cannot but be supposed, however, that many of our statements must be hypothetical, and consequently open to some doubt.

The first of these engagements took place, according to Clarendon, on the 18th of September, 1643. Charles commanded the royalists in person, and the Earl of Essex the parliamentary forces. It appears that the siege of Gloucester having been raised, the Earl of Essex was desirous of marching to London, and proceeded through the northern part of Wiltshire by easy marches, to enable his sick and wounded soldiers to join him. The king, when he discovered the earl's route, despatched in pursuit of him prince Rupert,* with nearly 5,000 horse, who marched

* Prince Rupert was nephew to the king, being the son of his sister, the princess Elizabeth, by Frederic, the elector Palatine, who was afterwards elected king of Bohemia. On the death of her husband, she retired to England, and it is said, was to have married William, the first lord Craven, who had in her misfortunes shewn towards her the most chivalrous, generous, and devoted attachment.

with great expedition, day and night, in order to overtake the parliamentarians before they could get clear of the enclosed countries, and to harrass and impede them with skirmishes in their line of march through the narrow lanes. On the 16th of September, when the van of the parliamentarians had almost marched over Auborne Chase, in the hope of gaining Newbury that night, prince Rupert unexpectedly appeared, and, with a strong body of horse, before the parliamentarians could put themselves in order to receive him, charged their rear with so much vigour, that, with considerable difficulty, and with the loss of many men, they could only reach Hungerford, where they took up their quarters at night. In this encounter, the Lord Jermyn was wounded in the arm by a pistol shot, and the Lord Digby (both royalists,) had a narrow escape, a pistol having been discharged directly in his face, and so near to him, that the powder caused a great effusion of blood, and, for the present, blinded him, but without his experiencing any further injury, owing, as it was supposed, to the bullet having dropped out before the pistol was fired. In consequence of the activity and resolution of prince Rupert, and the delay which he occasioned to the parliamentarians, the king was able to come up with the whole of his foot and train of artillery, and by exceedingly long and rapid marches, reached Newbury early on the following day, the 17th of September. On this day the earl advanced from Hungerford with the intention of recovering Newbury, but of which town, when within the distance of about two miles of it, he learnt that the king was already in possession, having, with his whole army, attained that place about two hours before, and had secured all the stroug positions in the neighbourhood. This obliged the earl to remain on the field that night. The advantages of position were decidedly in favor of the king, his army being quartered in the town with ample resources; Wallingford being garrisoned by his troops, and Oxford, within a distance, to furnish him with supplies. Donnington castle, rather more than a mile from Newbury, commanding the road to Oxford, was also occupied by the royalists. These advantages were not overlooked by Charles, and he resolved not to hazard a battle unless upon favorable terms. On the 18th, the earl, with great military conduct, drew out his army in order of battle, on a hill called, by Clarendon, "Bigg's hill," which, he says, was within

less than a mile of the town. But the judicious determination of the king was counteracted by the precipitate and imprudent courage of some of his junior commanding officers, who, undervaluing the courage of the enemy, and guided by their own impetuosity, occasioned strong parties to be so far successively involved, that the king was compelled to come to a general engagement. It was, to adopt the words of Clarendon, "disputed on all points with great fierceness and courage; the enemy preserving good order, and standing rather to keep the ground they were upon than to get more, by which they did not expose themselves to those disadvantages which any motion would have offered to the assailants. The king's horse, with a kind of contempt of the enemy, charged with wonderful boldness upon all grounds of inequality, and were so far too hard for the troops of the other side, that they routed them in most places, till they had left the greatest part of their foot without any guard at all of horse. But then the foot behaved themselves admirably on the enemy's part, and gave their scattered horse time to rally, and were ready to assist and secure them upon all occasions. The London trained bands and auxiliary regiments (of whose inexperience of danger, or any kind of service, beyond the easy practice of their postures in the artillery garden, men had, till then, too cheap an estimation,) behaved themselves to wonder, and were, in truth, the preservation of that army that day. For they stood as a bulwark and rampire to defend the rest, and when their wings of horse were scattered and dispersed, kept their ground so steadily, that though prince Rupert himself led up the choice horse to charge them, and endured their storm of small shot, he could make no impression upon their stand of pikes, but was forced to wheel about." The engagement is said to have lasted the whole day. The king's horse appear, from Clarendon's account to have maintained a superiority over those of the parliamentarians, and to have compelled them often to give way; but, on the other hand, the infantry of Essex were immovable. The commencement of the battle, on the part of the royalists, is stated to have been so sudden, and with so little order, that during the whole day, the king could make no use of his cannon, whilst that of the parliamentarians was so well arranged and served, that it did great execution. At length the approach of night, not unwelcome to either party, sepa-

bury, his lines extending from the town, to the Wash Common, being "the large plain" alluded to in the Memoirs, where the principal part of his army was drawn up in "battalia." It was to reach this force that the van of Essex's army was obliged to march through the narrow lane just referred to. This lane, we are inclined to think, must have been that which leads from Enborne, by Cope Hall, from Skinner's Green, to what was Enborne Common and the Wash; being the only road through which Essex could pass in order to attack the main body of the royalists "in the large plain." In making this movement, the rear of the parliamentary army might be exposed, as was apprehended by Essex, to attacks from those of the king's forces, which were in the open fields between Newbury and the Wash. To return to our narration—

"Essex's army encamped that night "*in the fields*, impatient of the sloth of darkness," the more so, that the king, it is said in the "Memoirs," had sent a challenge to the earl to give him battle the next day. At the dawn of the following morning, the king's army is described as being drawn up in order of battle, and advanced to "the brow of the hill, and not long after, the ordnance was planted." Such were the eagerness and resolution of the officers and commanders of the royal army, that having left their doublets, they, "in their shirts," led on their men to the battle. The following description of this engagement is given with so much spirit by the writer of the Memoirs, that we shall make no apology for giving it at length. "The first that gave the charge was the most noble lord Roberts, whose actions speak him higher than our epithets. He performed it with great resolution, and, by his own example, shewed excellent demonstrations of valour to his regiment. The cavalry of the enemy performed also their charge most bravely, and gave in with a mighty impression upon him. A prepared body of our army made haste to relieve him. Upon this, two regiments of the king's horse, with a fierce charge, saluted the blue regiments of the London trained bands, who gallantly discharged upon them, and did beat them back; but they, being no whit daunted at it, wheeled about, and on a sudden, charged them; our musqueteers did again discharge, and that with so much violence and success, that they sent them now, not wheeling but reeling from them, and yet for all that they made a third assault, and coming in full squadrons, they did the

utmost of their endeavor to break through our ranks, but a cloud of bullets came at once so thick from our muskets, and made such havock amongst them, both of men and horse, that in a fear, full of confused speed, they did fly before us, and did no more adventure upon so warm a service. In the mean time, Sir Philip Stapleton performed excellent service with the lord general's regiment of horse, and five times together did charge the enemy; but above all, the renown and glory of this day is most justly due unto the resolution and conduct of our general; for before the battle was begun, he did ride from one regiment to another, and did inflame them with courage, and perceiving in them all an eager desire to battle with their enemies, he collected to himself a sure presage of victory to come. I have heard, that when in the heat and tempest of the fight, some friends of his did advise him to leave off his white hat, because it rendered him an object so remarkable to the enemy. "No," replied the earl, "it is not the hat, but the heart; the hat is not capable either of fear or honor." He himself being foremost in person, did lead up the city regiment, and when a vast body of the enemy's horse had given so violent a charge, that they had broken quite through it, he quickly rallied his men together, *and with undaunted courage did lead them* UP THE HILL. In his way, he did beat the infantry of the king from *hedge to hedge*, and did so scatter them, that hardly any of the enemy's foot appeared, at that present, to him, to keep together in a body. After six hours' long fight, with the assistance of his horse, he gained those advantages which the enemy possessed in the *morning, which were the hill, the hedges, and the river*. In the mean time, a part of the enemy's horse, in a great body, wheeled about, and about three quarters of a mile below the hill, they did fall upon the rear of our army, where our carriages were placed. To relieve which, his excellency sent a selected party from the hill, to assist their friends, who were deeply engaged in the fight. These forces marching down the hill, did meet a regiment of horse of the enemy's, who, in their hats, had branches of fern and broom, which our army did that day wear for distinction sake, to be known by one another from their adversaries, and they cried out to our men, "friends, friends," but they being discovered to be enemies, our men gave fire upon them, and having some horse to second

the execution, they did force them farther from them: our men being now marched to the bottom of the hill, they encreased the courage of their friends, and after a sharp conflict, they forced the king's horse to fly, with remarkable loss, having left the ground strewed with the carcases of their horses and riders. In the mean time, his excellency having now planted his ordnance *on the top of the hill*, did then thunder against the enemy where he found their nnmbers to be thickest, and the king's ordnance *(being yet on the same hill)* did play with the like fury against the forces of his excellency; the cannon on each side did dispute with one another as if the battle was but new begun. The trained bands of the city of London endured the chiefest heat of the day, and had the honour to win it, for being now upon *the brow of the hill*, they lay not only open to the horse, but the cannon of the enemy; yet they stood undaunted, and conquerors against all, and like a grove of pines, in a day of wind and tempest, they only moved their heads or arms, but kept their footing sure, unless by an improvement of honor, they advanced forward to pursue their advantage on their enemies. Although the night did now draw on, yet neither of the armies did draw off, the enemy's horse, in a great body, did stand *on the farthest side of the hill*, and the broken remainders of their foot behind them, and having made some pillage about the middle of the night, they drew off their ordnance towards Newbury. On the next morning, his excellency, being absolute master of the field, did marshal again his soldiers into order to receive the enemy, if he had any stomach to the field, and to that purpose discharged a piece of ordnance, but no enemy appearing, he marched towards Reading."

In Heath's Brief Chronicle of the civil wars of England, Scotland, and Ireland, published in 1663, in giving an account of this battle, it is related that prince Rupert, having been obliged to retreat from the first onset, an opportunity was thereby given for all the parliamentary horse of the right wing to draw up together. This body was composed of Essex's own regiment, and those of sir Philip Stapleton, and of colonels Dolbeir, Ramsey, Harvey, and Goodwin. Prince Rupert having, in the mean while, brought up the whole body of his horse, charged those regiments with so much resolution, that they were put into great confusion, and were forced back to the end of the

lane (leading to Skinner's Green,) at which, in the morning, they had entered, and where their foot were standing in great disorder. Some of the cavaliers pursued them to the lane's end, but with some loss, "from the warm reception which they met with from the foot." In these charges, colonel Dolbeir and commissary Copley, and captains Hammond, Pym, and Fleetwood, parliamentarian officers, were wounded. It is also mentioned in the Chronicle, that the *left* wing of the parliamentary, and the *right* of the king's army could not be engaged, bnt in small parties, owing to the hedges. This latter circumstance is material, as it indicates, beyond a doubt, the exact situation of the field of battle, which we shall hereafter more particularly explain, and confirms our impression on that point. Lord Ruthven, a Scotch nobleman, who had recently been created earl of Brentford, was the general, commanding immediately under Charles, and was prevented by the precautionary movement of Skippon, which we have already related, from carrying into execution the king's design, of seizing on the artillery of Essex, and falling on the rear of his men, who were engaged on the hill.

The Memoirs also inform us, that Essex had not proceeded above three or four miles from Newbury, on his march towards Reading, when he was pursued by a strong party of the royalists, under the command of the earl of Northampton, and the lord Wilmot, prince Rupert commanding the horse. Not expecting the enemy to be so near at hand, Essex's forces were attacked at a great disadvantage in a narrow lane. This sudden attack caused some confusion in Essex's horse, which were bringing up his rear, so much so, that in their flight, they broke through the ranks of his foot, trampling many of them under their horses. But the foot, rallying from this disorder, made a stand, and discharged ten drakes on their assailants, who charged them with their cavalry, and lined the hedges with their foot, from whence the parliamentarians were much annoyed by their fire. After a severe struggle, in which much desperate valour was displayed on both sides, the royalists retired, leaving on the ground about 100 dead. Prince Rupert, it is said, had, on this occasion, three horses shot under him.

The parliamentarians had afterwards an unmolested march to "the Veal," (Theale,) and the next day they reached Reading.

Essex, previous to his advance from Newbury towards Reading, sent a "ticket" to Mr. Fulke*, the minister of the parish of Enborne, and to the constables thereof, in these words: "These are to will, require, and straightly charge and command you forthwith, upon sight hereof, to bury all the dead bodies lying in about Enborne and Newbury Wash, as you, or any of you, will answer the contrary, at your peril. Dated, one and twentieth of September, 1643. Signed, Essex." His majesty having understood "the pious care" of the earl for the burial of the dead on both sides, issued the following warrant to the mayor of Newbury, for the recovery of the wounded who were taken prisoners: "Our will and command is, that you forthwith send into the towns and villages adjacent and bring thence all the sick and hurt soldiers of the Earl of Essex's army, and although they be rebels, and deserve the punishment of traytors, yet out of our tender compassion upon them, being our subjects, our will and pleasure is, that you carefully provide for their recovery, as well as for those of our own army, and then send them unto Oxford."

Oldmixon, in his History of the Royal House of Stuart, a writer avowedly in favor of the parliamentarians, in describing these events, mentions some circumstances which are not noticed by either Clarendon or in the Memoirs. Having narrated Essex's arrival at Hungerford, carrying with him the corpse of the marquis de Vieuville, the French nobleman, whom we have mentioned to have been slain in the skirmish on Auborne Chase, and which, he says, was given up to the king, on payment of £500, which Essex divided amongst his soldiers, he adds, that Essex there surprised a troop of the king's horse. At this town, the earl took up his quarters, in great want of provisions, owing to his carriages not being come up, and to the country around him being ill-affected towards the parliamentarians. He could, therefore, obtain nothing but by compulsion. That the king, with his whole army, having reached Newbury, his

* The rector of Enborne, at the time, was the Rev. William *Elke*. We have seen his hand writing of his name in several places in his register of that period.

The rector of Newbury, at this time, was the rev. Dr. William Twisse, a noted Calvinistical writer, and prolocutor of the Assembly of Divines. He was a native of Speenhamland.

majesty had on his *right* hand the advantage of the river Kennet, and on his *left*, a hill half a mile from the town, where he had planted his ordnance. That by reason of this disposition of the royalists, the parliamentarians " had no passage to them, but what was exposed to the fire of their, the royalists, cannon." In Whitelock's memorials it is said, and the same is related by Oldmixon, who derived it from the former, that the parliamentarians beat the royalists from all their advantages, got " the hill from them, pursued them to Newbury, and out of the town again." This latter circumstance we are inclined not wholly to credit. So decided an advantage, if it had been obtained by the parliamentarians, would scarcely have been omitted to be noticed in the Memoirs of Essex, which rather lead us to conclude that the parliamentarians, during the engagement, were unable to penetrate into the town. Oldmixon, with an evident wish to represent every thing in the way least favorable to the king, asserts, that the result of the battle was decidedly to the advantage of Essex, and that the king, being every where beaten, in the night drew off his ordnance, leaving the earl entirely master of the field of battle, which he kept that night and part of the next day. He adds, which is somewhat inconsistent with the circumstance of the king's having been so severely worsted, as he describes, that when night drew on, the royal army, both horse and foot, stood " in good order, on the farther side of the green where they fought," and from whence the king retreated by night. He also relates, which is directly at variance with the accounts, both of Clarendon and the Memoirs, that Essex, in his advance towards Reading, was not attacked till he came to Theale, where colonel Harvie, a Scotchman, fell upon his rear with a party of the king's horse, from which skirmish colonel Harvey was obliged to retreat with the loss of sixty men, the parliamentarians having lost only eight. Oldmixon, in the above account, furnishes us with two or three important points of position, an attention to which will be of great assistance in our attempt to describe the stations and operations of the two armies. This historian also relates, that 2,000 royalists were slain, from the time of Essex's removal from Hungerford to the end of Newbury fight, and that on the side of the parliamentarians only 500 were killed. The Earl of Essex and his army



subsequently reached London, without further molestation. The conduct and courage of the earl in this engagement, and in his march to London, were much and justly applauded, and were reckoned "amongst the most soldierly actions of that unhappy war." On the king's side, three distinguished noblemen fell in this battle. Henry Spencer, earl of Sunderland, only 23 years of age, who fought as a volunteer in the king's troop, and was killed not far from the king's person, by a cannon ball, before the two armies came to a charge. Robert Dormer, earl of Carnarvon,* (who had married Anna Sophia, daughter of Philip, earl of Pembroke and Montgomery,) after he had charged and routed a body of the enemy's horse, as he was returning carelessly near some of the scattered troopers, was, by one of them who knew him, run through the body with a sword, of which wound he died within an hour. A full length portrait of this nobleman is in a picture of an interesting group of the Herbert family, by Vandyke, at Wilton House. He is represented as an elegant youth, of a fine countenance, with beautiful light yellow hair flowing on his shoulders, according to the fashion of the day. His moral portrait, as drawn by Clarendon, is no less prepossessing, who states that he had travelled through Spain, France, and Italy; had spent a considerable time in Turkey and the Eastern countries, with an observant eye on their manners and customs, and although he had indulged "in the looser exercises of pleasure, hunting, hawking, and the like, in which the nobility of that time too much delighted to excel," yet, that after he had taken the command of a regiment of horse, in the king's service, no man more diligently obeyed or more dexterously commanded. Of great personal courage and presence of mind, a strict observer of justice, and of the most severe and honourable regard to his word and promise. By his death, the king sustained the loss of a zealous supporter of his cause, and a gallant and promising commander.

But the most distinguished nobleman who fell in this engagement, was Lucius Cary, viscount Falkland, secretary of state, who is described as a nobleman of great learning and knowledge, of an active benevolence, and of a most amiable simplicity of life. Living

* He was interred in Jesus College, Oxford.

at his seat, called Tue, in the neighbourhood of Oxford, he cultivated the society of the most learned and eminent men of that University, who dwelt with him, "as in a college situated in purer air." Previous to his becoming secretary of state, the appointment to which office he received with great reluctance, he was wholly occupied in the pursuits of literature, so that, as happily expressed by Clarendon, "his house was an university in a less volume." At the commencement of the battle, he put himself in the first rank of lord Byron's regiment, which was then advancing upon the parliamentarians, "who had lined the hedges on both sides with musqueteers," when he was shot with a musket in the lower part of the body, and falling immediately from his horse, his corpse, it is said, was not found till the next morning. On the morning of the battle, he had shewn an unusual care in the arrangement of his dress, assigning as a reason, that the enemy should not find his body in any slovenly condition. "I am weary," added he, "of the times, and foresee much misery to my country, but believe I shall be out of it ere night." He was in the 34th year of his age. He is commemorated by Pope, in the following line,

"See, Falkland dies, the virtuous and the just."

An interesting anecdote relative to lord Falkland, will not, we apprehend, prove unacceptable to our readers, it being so perfectly in *keeping* with the character which has been handed down to us of that nobleman, and so much in unison with his own melancholy foreboding of the fate which awaited him.

We have derived it from a source to which credit for authenticity may be attached.

Falkland, the night which he passed in Newbury, slept at the house in the Market Place, of a highly reputable tradesman of the name of Head. Being convinced that an engagement on the next day was inevitable, and being strongly impressed with the presentiment, that it would be attended with a fatal result to himself, he determined, in order to be fully prepared for the event, to receive the sacrament. Accordingly, very early on the morning of the battle, it was administered to him

land was taken prisoner at St. Neot's, and was afterwards tried by the parliamentarians, and, with some other noblemen, was beheaded, rather more than a month after the execution of the king. Some exertions were made to save his life, but from his vaccillating and insincere character, he had lost the confidence and respect of both parties, and thus expiated on the scaffold, the tergiversation and treasury which were imputed to him, both by the court and the parliament.

The king, after the parliamentary army had evacuated Reading, and marched to London, which they reached on the 25th of September, placed a garrison of 3,000 foot and 500 horse in Reading, under the command of sir Jacob Astley, and then, with prince Rupert and the main of his army, retired to Oxford for his winter quarters. A garrison, under the command of colonel Boys, was also left in Donnington Castle, which commanded the great road through which the western trade was, at that time carried on to London.

We have not been able to ascertain any very accurate account of what was the numerical force of the two armies. Essex is stated to have marched with about 8,000 foot and 4,000 horse, to the relief of Gloucester. No engagement took place between the king and Essex before that city, as the former, on the approach of the parliamentary army, raised the siege, without hazarding a battle, contrary to the earl's expectation, who had drawn up his army in order of battle, on Presbury hills, in view of the city. As the parliamentarians were permitted to enter Gloucester, and to supply the garrison with provisions and ammunition, both of which they stood in great need, without any resistance, the only diminution of their force which they experienced was in the skirmishes which they encountered on their march from thence to Hungerford, particularly over Auborne Chase.

Rapin gives the force of the king's army with which he marched to the siege of Gloucester, as only about 8,000 of horse and foot, of which it appears, that 5,000 consisted of the former. The royal army is said, by Oldmixon, to have been more numerous than that of the parliamentarian. But this writer partakes so much of the partisan, and betrays such an

evident wish to exalt the conduct of the parliamentarians and to disparage that of the royalists, that his account must, in many cases, be received with caution. The circumstance of the king declining to give battle to Essex before Gloucester, when that city was so nearly being reduced, is a strong presumptive evidence, that his majesty felt convinced that his force was not of sufficient magnitude to insure a reasonable chance of victory, although a victory, on that occasion, would be followed by the capture of the city, an event which would have proved a great accession of strength and confidence to the royal cause. At the same time, we think that the king's army must have been larger than is mentioned by Rapin, as we find that after the battle of Newbury, his majesty was enabled to leave a garrison of 3,000 infantry, besides cavalry, in Reading. We apprehend it may be concluded, that although the king was much superior in cavalry, he was, in a greater proportion, inferior in infantry to Essex.

There are some discrepancies between the different historians, which it may be difficult to attempt to reconcile. They differ as to the day of the month on which the battle was fought. Clarendon, alleging that it was the 18th of September, and the Memoirs, that it was the 20th, probably the latter day is the correct one, being corroborated by the date of the order of Essex for the burial of the dead, which was the 21st, and is stated to have been issued the day after the battle, and previous to his march. A due allowance must also be made in respect of the strong political bias of the writers, each, but too naturally, wishing to give the most favourable representation to his own side. It is to be recollected, that the old road from Hungerford to Newbury passed through or near the south side of the village of Kintbury, and which was the line of Essex's march to the latter town, by which the Kennet would afford a protection to *his* left. The king, being in possession of Newbury, had, as Oldmixon states, the advantage of the Kennet on *his* right, and on his left a hill, half a mile from the town, where he had planted his ordnance. The hill must, as we conceive, have been that extending from the town to the Wash, which would command the approach to Newbury, and leave no pas-

to confirm the positions and disposition of the respective armies, as we have described them. It is more than probable, that the slain were buried jointly by the two parishes of Newbury and Enborne, as it is a remarkable circumstance that the boundary line of the two parishes runs exactly over the apex of the larger tumulus. "The farthest side of the hill," stated in the Memoirs, and "the farthest side of the green where they fought," stated by Oldmixon as the spot on which the king, after the battle, drew up his horse and foot in good order, and from whence he retired in the night with his ordnance to Newbury, was, we think, the north and eastern part of the Wash, *towards Sandleford*, by which position his communication with Newbury, and his line of retreat on that town, which he effected in the course of the night, would be preserved. We have searched the register of that period of the parish of Enborne, but can find no allusion to any burials connected with the battle. Every little incident which marks *locality* becomes interesting and important, as it may assist in ascertaining, with greater correctness, the positions of the forces. The following anecdote, which we introduce as ancillary to this purpose, we have received from a very respectable farmer, now residing in Enborne, and on a small farm which has been in the possession of his family for many generations. The ancestor of our informant fought in this battle as one of the trained bands of London; and his descendant now possesses the sword which he wore on that memorable occasion. He has frequently heard his grandfather (who might have heard it related almost immediately from the ancestor, who was in the battle) say, that a party of the parliamentarians were regaling themselves in the gully, or small wood, on the south side of the present new-built residence and lawn of colonel Burslem, at Enborne, thinking that they were out of danger, when, to their great consternation, a cannon ball passed between the party, fortunately without doing further injury than carrying away a roasted pig which they were eating. Without pretending to vouch for the accuracy of this anecdote in every respect, further than that it is probable it had some foundation in an adventure of such a kind, the principal use which we wish to make

of it is, that the *locus in quo* is situated on the ground which we have described as forming part of Essex's line, and therefore confirmatory of our account.

Dr. Sanderson, in his History of the Life and Reign of Charles I., says, that the battle was fought principally on a hill, near the town, and on Enbourn Heath, and that the king and queen stood all day upon the hill to view the fight. The statement of the queen being present at this battle may be questioned. Clarendon informs us, that while the king was prosecuting the siege of Gloucester, the queen remained at Oxford; and that when Essex was making his preparations to relieve the former city, it was suspected that he intended to alarm Oxford, "*where the queen was*" and thereby induce Charles to withdraw his arms from the siege of Gloucester. This suspicion was soon removed by the earl's march to that city. It seems scarcely likely that the queen would leave her, comparatively, safe retreat at Oxford, and venture on an attempt to join the king before Gloucester, and incur the imminent risk of being intercepted by some of the parliamentary forces. After the siege of Gloucester had been raised, the movements of the two armies were so rapid, and they were so much involved in continued skirmishes and hurried marches, both by day and night, as to preclude every idea of Henrietta's encountering the great fatigue and danger of resorting to Charles, and of accompanying him in his hasty approach to Newbury. We think also that if so important a personage as the queen had been present to view the battle, it would not have been passed unnoticed both by Clarendon and the Memoirs.

It is obvious, we conceive, the king having retired within his quarters and abandoned any disposition to renew the combat, that the line of march pursued by Essex to Reading, was from the Wash, by Sandleford, over Greenham common, through the Villages of Brimpton and Aldermaston, to Theale, where Essex rested and refreshed his men, and proceeded to Reading the next day. The lanes, through these villages, are narrow and confined, and correspond with the description given both in Clarendon and the Memoirs and where an army



would be exposed to considerable molestation by an enemy, with a strong body of cavalry and musqueteers, operating in the rear of its march.

Lord Grey, of Groby, Sir Philip Stapleton, and several other members of the house of Commons, and many officers, received the thanks of the house for their services at the battle of Newbury, which thanks were entered on the journals of parliament, "for an honour to them and their posterity."

Amongst the colours taken from the royalists in this engagement, was "one cornet," on which was represented, the parliament house, with two traitors heads on the top, and these words inscribed, "*ut extra sic infra.*"

The siege and Storming of Donnington Castle, and the Second Battle of Newbury.

Previous to giving an account of the second battle of Newbury, we will relate an affair of the garrison, which was left by the king, in Donnington castle. For this, we are indebted to a work entitled "The Memorials of the English affairs, or an Historical Account of what passed from the beginning of the reign of king Charles I., to king Charles II. his happy restoration."*

The incident shews that the small garrison of the castle were not inactive, but availed themselves of every opportunity of annoying their opponents.

For the better understanding of the subject, it may be proper to mention, that Oxford and Wallingford still continued in the possession of the royalists, and formed in this part, their chief garrisons and strongholds.

Abingdon was in the possession of the parliamentarians, under the command, during a principal part of the time, of Sir William Waller. For the support of the diffrent garrisons, both royal and parliamentarian, it was necessary that expeditions should be frequently made into the surrounding country, in order to procure adequate supplies. From the contiguity of the

* London, printed in the year MDCLXXII.

hostile garrisons, on these incursions, frequent encounters and skirmishes occurred. Attacks and inroads were also made on the neighbouring towns and villages, particularly if they were deemed ill-affected to the respective parties, or had evinced a reluctance to furnish the needful demands.

We are told in the work just referred to, that sometime in August, 1644, a party of the king's garrison at Donnington castle, made a sally into Newbury "on the Lord's day," with the design, which they nearly accomplished, of seizing upon some of the chief men of the town. It may be inferred from the day selected, that the majority of the inhabitants of the town were, at that time, either of the presbyterian or of the independant party, and that the royalists therefore calculated, from the strictness with which the Sunday was kept by these two predominating sects, they might on that day be less prepared to resist any aggression and more exposed to a surprise. Dr. Twisse, the rector, being a parliamentarian, we may conjecture, that his parishioners, however divided in their religious opinions, were principally in favor of that party.

Fortunately, some of sir William Waller's men, who might have formed a part of the army, which was employed to blockade the castle, or who might have been at that time, accidentally, in the town or in the immediate neighbourhood, came opportunely to the rescue of those of the inhabitants who had been captured. This detachment of Waller's attacked the royalists and compelled them to retreat to the castle, with the loss of 20 prisoners.

Relative to the siege of Donnington castle, we are informed by Clarendon, that Waller, after his defeat in the battle of Cropedy bridge, which was fought in June, 1644, sent his lieutenant-general Middleton, with a body of 3000 horse and dragoons for the purpose of following the king into the west, and to wait upon his rear, with orders to reduce in his way, "Donnington castle,* the house of a private gentlemen, near Newbury, in which there were a company or two of the foot of the king's." This garrison the parliamentary general expected would be delivered up without much resistance,

* The castle then belonged to John Packer, Esq. It now belongs to the rev. W. H. H. Hartley, a descendant, by a female branch, of Mr. Packer.

being considered as of little strength. But, contrary to such expectation, he found it so well defended by colonel Boys, that after the parliamentarians had lost at least 300 officers and soldiers, in the attempt to take it, their general was compelled to apply to the governor of Abingdon to send an additional force to the assistance of the party left to blockade the castle, and Middleton then prosecuted his march to follow the king.

We are further told in Heath's Chronicle, in reference to Middleton's operations before the castle, that having made his approaches and having seized a barn which had been occupied by the besieged, he sent to the governor this summons:

"Sir,

I demand you to render me Donnington castle, for the use of the king and parliament: if you please to entertain a present treaty, you shall have honorable terms. My desire to spare blood makes me propose this. I desire your answer.

JOHN MIDDLETON."

To which, Boys returned the following resolute reply:

"For lieutenant-general Middleton,

Sir,

I am entrusted by his majesty's express command, and have not learned yet to obey any other than my sovereign. To spare blood, do as you please, but myself and those that are with me, are fully resolved to venture ours in maintaining what we are entrusted with, which is the answer of

JOHN BOYS."

Heath also relates, that Middleton, perceiving that the garrison would not listen to any terms, determined to assault the castle, and accordingly he advanced against it with foot and scaling ladders in three places. The attack lasted six hours, without the assailants being able to effect any practicable breach in the castle. Middleton was obliged, there-

fore, to retire from this attack, with the loss of 100 men, a colonel, a major, and several other officers. He immediately thereupon, raised the siege, and proceeded to join the army of the earl of Essex, which was then in the west of England.

On the withdrawal of Middleton, the command of the force entrusted with the blockade of the castle, devolved on colonel Horton. Before we proceed further in our account of the siege, it will be requisite that we should explain the movements of the king.

The year after the first battle of Newbury, his majesty advanced into the West of England, the details of which operations would be irrelevant on the present occasion, and in October, he commenced his return to Oxford, for the purpose of again taking up his winter quarters there. Charles, in his march to that city, was desirous of relieving Donnington Castle. The king, according to Clarendon, marched to Salisbury on the 15th of October. On the following day he advanced with great secrecy, to Andover, and having driven Waller from thence, who then lay at that town with a considerable force, the king quartered there that night. Charles marched from thence to Newbury, and having ordered that his cannon, which he had left at Langford and Wilton, should meet him at a place appointed, between Andover and Newbury, they entered together the latter town. In the "Memorials of the English affairs," it is stated that about, or shortly after this time, lord Wareston and Mr. Crew, the parliamentarian commissioners, informed the commons that their three armies, namely, those of Essex, Waller, and Manchester, had joined together near to Basing, and that the king's forces were at Whitchurch, in Hampshire, in their advance from the West towards Oxford, being within five miles of the parliamentarians. That the parliamentary general had sent directions to Reading and other places, to destroy all the bridges, in order to impede the king's march to that city. And that a counsel of war had resolved to give battle to the royalists. At Whitchurch, Charles "faced the parliament's army with his horse," with the view of occupying their attention, while he, in the mean time, drew away his foot towards Newbury, whither his horse afterwards followed him. But a captain Fincher, with a



party of the parliamentarian cavalry, "waiting on their march," to that town, surprised 60 of the king's horse.

In relating the following transactions and the battle which ensued, we shall adopt the same plan which we have already pursued, taking lord Clarendon and the Memoirs of Ludlow, written by himself, and who was personally engaged in the second battle, as our chief authorities, and comparing them with other accounts which have been handed down to us. Some contradictory statements will appear, which it will be unreasonable that our readers should expect us to reconcile. All that we can, or profess to do, is the unpretending task of collecting and embodying, in as concise, accurate, and intelligible a manner as we can, the different narratives; and the reader must excercise his own judgment and discrimination, as to which of these narratives may be most deserving of credit. In doing this, in order that the fullest information possible relative to these interesting events may be brought before our readers, we would rather subject ourselves to the charge of redundancy, than that we should omit any thing which may tend to throw light on, or to furnish the fullest detail of the proceedings which we attempt to describe.

Clarendon informs us that after some time had been consumed by Horton in the blockade of the castle, without success, and his summonses having been neglected, and having received an accession of force from Abingdon and Reading, he resolved to besiege the garrison in form. This he commenced "on the 29th of September, and made his approaches and raised a battery *on the foot of the hill, next to Newbury*." After twelve day's firing, he beat down three towers and a part of the wall. Horton, conceiving that this had so humbled the governor and the garrison that they would no longer continue so obstinate as they had hitherto shewn themselves, sent another summons, in which he affected to represent that his clemency had "prevailed with him now they were at his mercy to offer them quarter for their lives, if they gave up the castle before Wednesday, at ten o'clock in the morning, but, if that his favor was not accepted, he declared, in the presence of God, that there should no man amongst them have his life spared." The governor treated this summons, as he had all the

former ones, with contempt, and returned for answer, that "he would keep the place, and would neither give nor receive quarter." At this time, the earl of Manchester, with his forces, came to Newbury, and having received to his summons, a similar reply from the governor, resolved to storm the castle the next day. But the soldiers of Manchester, "being well informed of the resolution of those within, declined that hot service, and plied it with their artillery until the next night, and then removed their battery to the *other side* of the castle, and began their approaches by saps." Here the governor made a strong sally, and beat the assailants out of their trenches, killing the lieutenant-colonel, who commanded, and the chief cannoneer and many soldiers, and having brought away their cannon baskets and many arms, retired with very little loss. Notwithstanding this attack, the besiegers during the next night finished their battery, and continued, for some days, firing great shot, until they heard of the approach of the king's army, whereupon the parliamentarians drew off their ordnance, and the London trained bands not having yet arrived, Manchester thought it prudent to retire. Clarendon states, that in 19 days there were above 1000 great shot spent upon the walls without doing any other damage to the garrison than the beating down of some old parts of the castle. When the king came to Newbury, the governor, colonel Boys, attended him there, and received the well merited honor of knighthood, for his gallant defence of the castle. Clarendon continues, that the king, entertaining little dread, or expectation of the approach of the enemy, deferred prosecuting his march to Oxford until some other places had also been relieved. In the mean time, the forces under Essex and Waller, having been united with that of Manchester, and amounting, with the trained bands of London, to a body of 8000 foot, with a force of horse not inferior, advanced towards the king, whose army, much less in number than the parliamentarian, was further reduced by his having imprudently dispatched the earl of Northampton, with a considerable force, to the relief of Banbury. Charles remained at Newbury, waiting the return of that Nobleman, not anticipating that his opponents could be so soon united. So little was the king prepared for any attack, that, it is stated by Clarendon, the



parliamentary army had actually reached Thatcham, a village only three miles from Newbury, on the road to London, before he was aware of their intention, and when it was too late to attempt a retreat to Oxford. The king, therefore, resolved to stand upon the defensive only, relying upon the advantage of possessing the town of Newbury, and the protection afforded by the river, and that the enemy, being compelled to encamp in the fields, at a season of the year, when the nights become cold, would be forced soon to retire. Charles himself, with the prince of Wales, then a youth of about the age of thirteen years, was quartered in Newbury, and had placed strong guards on the south of the town. The greatest part of his army was placed towards the enemy's quarters, "in a good house,* belonging to Mr. Doleman, at Shaw, and in a village (Shaw) near it, defended by a river (the Lamborne) that runs under Donnington castle, and in a house,† between that village and Newbury, about which a work was cast up, and at a mill upon the river Kennet; all which lay almost east from the town." The mill alluded to, must, we conceive, have been that now called Greenham mills, on the river Kennet, about half a mile to the east of Newbury. Clarendon further describes, that, "directly north from thence, (the town of Newbury,) were two open fields, where most of the horse stood with the train of artillery, and that about half a mile west, was the village of Speen, and beyond it, a small heath. In this village lay all prince Maurice's§ foot, (amongst them the duke of York's regiment, commanded by sir William St. Leger,) and at the entrance of the heath, a work was cast up, which cleared the heath. In this posture they had many skirmishes with the enemy for two days, without losing any ground, and the enemy was still beaten off with loss." It is conjectured that the open fields above mentioned are the fields which lie on the south bank of the Lamborne river; between that river

* Since the property of sir Joseph Andrews, bart., deceased; and now belonging to his relative, the rev. Dr. Penrose.

† There was an ancient house, afterwards known by the sign of the King's Arms which was many years ago pulled down. It was situated near Shaw Park, somewhere about the entrance of the road leading from the turnpike to Shaw. We are disposed to think that it must have been the entrenched house mentioned by Clarendon.

§ Prince Maurice was also nephew to the king, being the younger brother of prince Rupert.

and Speen hill, from whence the village of Speen is about half a mile to the west. The heath before alluded to, we apprehend to be the ground somewhere between the residence of the rev. George Wyld and Benham Lodge, and the land opposite, on the other side of the present turnpike road, some part of which still has the appearance of heathy ground.

Clarendon proceeds to state that "on Sunday morning, the 27th of October, by the break of day, 1000 of the earl of Manchester's army, with the trained bands of London, came down the hill and passed the river that way by Shaw, and undiscovered, forced that guard which should have kept the pass near the house that was entrenched, where sir Bernard Astley lay." We imagine that this force descended into the village of Shaw by the hill, which is now called Clay hill, immediately to the north-east of that village. This direction would bring them to the river at Shaw, at the point where the bridge now stands, and where the river is fordable; no mention being made of a bridge, in all probability none was at that time erected. Our historian continues, that "sir Bernard Astley with a body of musqueteers fell upon the enemy, and not only routed them, but compelled them to rout two other bodies of their own men who were coming to second them. In this pursuit very many of the enemy were slain and many drowned in the river, and above 200 arms taken. There continued all that day very warm skirmishes in several parts, the enemy's army having almost encompassed the king's, and with much more loss to them than to the king, till about three of the clock in the afternoon, Waller with his own and the forces which had been under Essex, fell upon the quarter at Speen and passed the river Lambourn, which was not well defended by the officer who was appointed to guard it with horse and foot, very many of them being gone off from their guards, as never imagining that they would, at that time of day, have attempted a quarter that was thought the strongest of all. But having thus got the river, they marched in good order with very great bodies of foot, winged with horse, towards the heath, from whence the horse which were left there, with too little resistence retired, being in truth much overpowered,



by reason, the major part of them, upon confidence of security of the pass, were gone to provide forage for their horse."

It may be inferred from the above account that Waller made his approach while the attention of the royalists was occupied by the "warm skirmishes," and passed the river Lambourn at about, as we conjecture, the hamlet of Bagnor, near the present bridge, and where the river is fordable. This hamlet is situated north-west, at about half a mile distant from the village of Speen. This conjecture is much confirmed by the circumstance that a very ancient house in Bagnor, near the present bridge, was called "the hospital;" and tradition states with every probability of truth, that it was used after this engagement as an hospital for the wounded. This house, which was the property of the late John Bebb, esq., was unfortunately burnt down in the winter of 1830. Having succeeded in securing the pass and in obtaining possession of the ordnance which had been planted there, Waller, without much resistance, seized on the village of Speen. The subsequent events cannot be better described than by again availing ourselves of Clarendon's own words, who states, that "the foot which were there retired to the hedge next the large field between Speen and Newbury, which they made good. At the same time the right wing of the enemy's horse advanced under the hill of Speen, with 100 musqueteers in the van, and came into the open field where a good body of the king's horse stood, which at first received them in some disorder, but the queen's regiment of horse commanded by sir John Cansfield charged them with so much gallantry, that he routed that great body, which then fled, and he had the execution of them near half a mile, wherein most of the musqueteers were slain and very many of the horse, insomuch, that the whole wing rallied not again that night. The king was at that time with the prince, and many of the lords, and other his servants in the middle of that field, and could not, by his own presence, restrain those horse, which, at the first approach of the enemy were in that disorder, from shamefully giving ground. So that if sir John Cansfield had not in that article

of time given them that brisk charge, by which other troops were ready to charge them in the flank, the king himself had been in very great danger. At the same time the left wing of the enemy's horse advanced towards the north side of the great field, but before they got thither, Goring, with the earl of Cleveland's brigade, charged them so vigorously that he forced them back in great confusion over a hedge, and following them, was charged by another fresh body, which he defeated likewise, and slew very many of the enemy upon the place, having not only routed and beaten them off their ground, but endured the shot of three bodies of their foot in pursuit and in their retreat, with no considerable damage, save that the earl of Cleveland's horse falling under him, he was taken prisoner, which was an extraordinary loss. Whilst this was doing on that side, 1200 horse and 3000 foot, of those under the earl of Manchester advanced with great resolution upon Shaw house and the field adjacent, which quarter was defended by sir Jacob Astley and colonel George Lisle, and the house by lieutenant-colonel Page. They came singing of psalms, and at first drove 40 musqueteers from a hedge who were placed there to stop them, but they were presently charged by sir John Brown with the prince's regiment of horse, who did good execution upon them till he saw another body of their horse ready to charge him, which made him retire to the foot, in Mr. Doleman's garden, *which flanked that field*, and give fire upon those horse, whereof very many fell, and the horse thereupon wheeling about, sir John Brown fell upon their rear, killed many, and kept that ground all the day, when the reserve of foot commanded by colonel Thelwell galled their foot with several vollies, and then fell on them with the butt-ends of their muskets till they had not only beaten them from the hedges but quite out of the field, leaving two drakes, some colours, and many dead bodies behind them. At this time a great body of their foot attempted Mr. Doleman's house, but were so well entertained by lieutenant-colonel Page, that after they had made their first effort, they were forced to retire in such confusion, that he pursued them from the house with a notable execution; insomuch, that they left 500 dead upon a little spot of ground, and they drew off the two drakes



rendon represents the loss on the king's side as trifling, but says, that of the parliamentarians, not so few as 1000 were left dead. Of the royalists, among the slain, were lieutenant-colonels sir William St. Leger, Topping, and Leake, and captain Caithlin; and only about 100 common soldiers. In the small estimate of the loss sustained by Charles, we think Clarendon is in error, and that the number of killed on both sides must have been very considerable. Among the wounded in the king's army, were, the earl of Brentford, the general; sir John Cansfield, sir John Greenvil, lieutenant-colonel Page, and captain Walgrave. The earl of Brentford, who was severely hurt in the head, remained at Donnington castle.

Having learned that Brentford was lodged there, the parliamentarians deputed colonel Hurry to him with large offers, if the earl would consent to deliver up the castle to them, but these overtures were rejected with becoming indignation. The next day the parliamentarians possessed themselves of Newbury, and then drew up their whole army before Donnington castle and summoned sir John Boys "to deliver it to them, or else they would not leave one stone upon another." To which the governor returned the spirited and laconic reply, "that he was not bound to repair it, but, however, he would, by God's help, keep the ground afterwards." They then proposed to allow him "to march with the arms, and all things belonging to the garrison;" and afterwards, "that he should carry all the cannon and ammunition with him." To which he replied, that he would not go out of the castle till the king sent him orders so to do. The parliamentarians, therefore, determined on an assault; but the officer commanding the party, with some few soldiers, having been killed, they retired without making any further attempt, and "remained quietly at Newbury, in great faction among themselves, every man taking upon himself to find fault and censure what had been done and had been left undone, in the whole day's service."

The king in the meanwhile having joined prince Rupert and the earl of Northampton, and having by their forces and other means augmented his army at Oxford to the amount of 6000 foot and 5000 horse, marched to Wallingford, and from thence, within eight days after he had left Donnington castle,

he again reached that place, with the intention of obtaining his cannon and of supplying the garrison with provisions. These objects, we shall find, he accomplished without opposition.

The parliamentary army still remained at Newbury, and, as Clarendon informs us, were ignorant of the advance of the king towards Donnington castle, until "a quarter of their horse was beaten up." The next morning Charles arranged his army in order of battle, prince Rupert, who was now declared the general, leading the van, secured and got possession of the heath at the back of the castle, "from which," Clarendon says, "a small party might have kept him, the entrance into it being very steep, and the way narrower. On that heath the king's army was drawn up about noon, every one being prepared to fight, and none of the enemy appearing, they marched by the castle, over the river (Lambourn) by a mill, (Donnington mill,) and two fords below it, without any opposition, and thence drew into the large field between Speen and Newbury." The parliamentarians in the meanwhile had assembled a great body of their horse and foot in the other field towards Shaw, and had made breastworks and batteries on the side of Newbury, having resolved to retain the town and to stand on the defensive, whilst the king's army would be obliged to encamp at that unfavourable season of the year, November, in the open fields. Only some light skirmishes passed between the horse; for the king, seeing upon what disadvantages he must force them to fight, called a counsel of war, who were unanimous in opinion, "that since he had relieved the castle, and put sufficient provisions into it, and that it was in his power to draw off his ordnance and amunition from thence, he had done his business, and if any honour had been lost the other day, it was regained now, by his having passed his army over the river in the face of theirs (the parliamentarians) and offered them battle, which they durst not accept." The king then retired in their view over the river the same way which he came, "with drums beating and trumpets sounding," and lay that night at Donnington castle, around which his army was encamped. In reference to the taunt of the king's counsel of war it may be observed, that the parliamentarians adopted



the same policy which Charles himself had determined to pursue in the former year, when he was in possession of Newbury, and his opponents were exposed to the open air, but the prudence and dicipline of the parliamentary leaders enabled them to adhere to such policy, which on the former occasion the king was obliged to forego, and in consequence, was plunged into a general engagement at a disadvantage.

Clarendon subjoins, that on Sunday morning, the 10th of November, the king marched from Donnington by the heath, over "a fair campagne," to Lambourn and Marlborough. At the latter town he fortified the house of lord Seymour (now the Castle inn) with the artillery which he had brought with him from Donnington castle. In this march his adversaries' horse attacked his rear, but were repulsed with loss; many of them being slain and some were taken prisoners. After some few operations of no great importance, the principal of which was the despatching of a force under colonel Gage for the relief of Basing, Charles returned to Oxford, where he again took up his winter quarters, on the 23rd of November.

Having submitted at considerable length the relation of these affairs as delivered to us by the royalist historian, we will, for the more complete and impartial developement of our subject, adduce the accounts which have been transmitted by the parliamentary writers.

Ludlow, in the Memoirs of his Life written by himself, although personally present and having a command in the parliamentary army, does not by any means give so clear and intelligible an account as that furnished by Clarendon. From a want of precision in the language of the former, it is difficult to trace him with accuracy. Having received orders to join the parliamentary forces, which were then in the neighbourhood of Basingstoke, Ludlow with a force of about 500 horse marched in that direction from Wiltshire, and reached the parliamentarians in safety. Some apprehensions had been entertained lest he should be intercepted by the royalists who were posted in his way; but he contrived to pass them during the night without being discovered.

Within a day or two after his joining them, he tells us, that the whole of the parliamentary army advanced towards New-

the whole of the parliamentary army advanced towards Newbury, of which place the royalists were then in the occupation. The earl of Essex was not at this time with the army, being indisposed at Southampton. In consequence of the earl's absence, the committee of both kingdoms sent some members of their own to prevent contentions, which frequently prevailed among the parliamentarians, concerning the command. Ludlow's description of the positions of the royalists and of the battle, is confined principally to what passed under his immediate observation. We will, therefore, take his own words. "The river that ran through the town defended the enemy on the south side of it, so that we could not come at them; and on the north-west part of it, within cannon shot, lay Dennington castle, in which they had placed a garrison, so that we had no other way to the town, but on *the north east of it*, where they had raised a breast work, and furnished some houses that were without it, with foot; the ground between that and the river being marshy, full of ditches, and not passable.

"On the north side of this highway was a strong stone house, belonging to one Mr. Doleman, having a rampart of earth about, which was also possessed by the enemy, so that little could be done upon them the first day, save skirmishing in small parties as they thought fit to come out to us. On our side we had the advantage of a hill (we conjecture Clay hill), which served in some measure to cover our men: here we planted some of our field pieces, and fired upon the enemy, who answered us in like manner, from the town. In the afternoon they drew two of their guns to the other side of the river, and with them fired upon that part of ours that lay on the side of the hill, who were much exposed in that place where their guns were planted: my regiment being that day on the guard, received the greatest damage; amongst others, my cousin Gabriel Ludlow who was a cornet therein, and who had behaved himself so well in the defence of Wardour castle, was killed. Our enemies having secured themselves, as I mentioned before, we were necessitated to divide our army, in order to attack them on the *north west side* of the town by Dennington castle; where most of our foot who engaged the enemy were of those who had been lately stripped by them in Cornwall; which usage being fresh on their memory, caused



them to charge with such vigour, that some of them ran up to their cannon, and clapped their hats upon the touch holes of them, falling so furiously upon the enemy, that they were not able to stand before them, but were forced to quit their ground, and ran under the shelter of Dennington castle, leaving behind them several pieces of cannon, besides many of their men killed and taken prisoners. Those on our side (Shaw) commanded by the earl of Manchester, observing the enemy to retreat in that disorderly manner on the other side, thought it their duty to endeavour to force their passage on this; and so to that end, our horse and foot with some cannon, were drawn into a bottom between Doleman's house and the hill where our guns were first planted: those at the little houses and at the breast works fired thick upon us; but our foot ran up to the houses, and attacked the enemy so vigourously that they were forced to retire to their breast work; between which and Doleman's house, our men continued firing about an hour and a half. But finding many to fall, and that there was no probability of doing any good, they retreated, leaving two drakes behind them. Our horse had stood drawn up within a little more than pistol shot of the enemies' works all the while our foot were engaged, for their encouragement and protection against any horse that should attack them, as also to second them in case they had made way. I had divers men and horse shot, and amongst the rest, my own. The night coming on, separated us, when drawing off, I perceived that my major had secured his troop in the rear of all, having taken care that all the regiment might not be lost in one engagement. In the night, the enemy removed their cannon and other carriages to Dennington castle, where having lodged them, they marched *between our two parties* towards Oxford."

From the Memorials of the English Affairs, we learn, that a messenger was sent to the house of commons with letters from the commissioners in the parliamentary army, containing the particulars of the battle, to this effect:—"That after a week's tedious but speedy march of the lord general's (Manchester's) infantry, and one night's refreshment at Reading, in *two days* further progress they drew up before Newbury, as near the town as

the enemies' cannon would suffer, this was upon Friday, Oct. 25. The king *kept within the town*, guarded by his artillery, but his body of horse and foot drew out into Speen field, the midway between the town and castle, both to make his army seem more numerous and to imbattle them in a place of extraordinary advantage. That day afforded nothing but an interview, the interposing river hindered the desire to fight. On the king's part, appeared rather a declining to be engaged, either that their numbers were not equal, or from an expectation of prince Rupert's advance with 3000 horse and dragoons, and the return of the earl of Northampton from Banbury with 1000. The king's strength is reported to have been 8000 foot and 500 horse, which, albeit, a gallant army, yet upon the parliament's forces drawing into battalia, they durst not take the field; but to counterpoise the parliament's numbers, the king fell to stratagems to fortifie the town, especially the avenues, and having raised his batteries and lined the hedges, stood upon his guard, and with some great pieces, where he saw the biggest bodies and most advantage, liberally sent them some bullets, which killed two or three horse, but hurt not their riders. For many hours some parties of horse skirmished between both the armies, in which play the parliament had the best, of whose part but one man fell, of theirs, four or five, of which, one was knighted.

"It being impossible to engage the king's forces without much hazard that night, the greatest part of the parliament's forces marched unto Chevely; the horse commanded by Waller and Balfour, the foot by Skippon, whilst the other, encamped before the east side of the town and ordered by Manchester, having agreed at one and the same time to storm the garrison on both sides. That night and the next, the parliamentarians quartered in the open fields, but neither the coldness of the weather, nor want of usual provision, any whit disanimated the soldiers, the expectation of fight swallowing up all other extremities, howbeit most of them had three days' provision prepared by command in their knapsacks. By daybreak upon Sunday, the horse and foot commanded by Waller and Skippon, were upon their march, in four hours surrounded Dunnington castle, and made their approach towards the west of Newbury. By the way, they intercepted two or three carts of provision, and took about 100



horse and foot of the king's, as they straggled, and the king's forces from the castle fell upon the parliament's rear, and took ten or twelve prisoners. It was one o'clock ere the train and rear came up, and near three ere they could be put into battalia; with extraordinary shouts, and other symptoms of courage and joy, the western body advanced, and by the forlorn-hope of horse, quickly began the fight, which with as much eagerness was seconded by the foot, who cried, 'they would now be revenged for the business of Cornwall.' For three hours the fight was maintained, with as much resolution and bravery on both parts as hath been since these wars; the cannon and small shot on both sides, firing with as quick a motion as was possible. Among the foot, the general's regiment especially did eminently well, and among all of the whole army, there was not one man or party, horse or foot, seen either to desert their duty or to dishearten their fellows. After a long and hot dispute, the parliamentarians beat the king's forces, first from their work and then from their ordnance, nine in number, in which atchievement they lost a few men, and among them captain Gawler."

In the same work, it is also related, that Cromwell followed the royalists on the night of their retreat, two hours before day. That on the king's side in this battle, 200 soldiers were slain, and 300 taken prisoners. A brother of general Goring, the eldest son of sir Humphrey Mildmay, and major Trevillian, were amongst the killed. It is added, that sir William Waller and sir Arthur Haselrigge, further confirmed to the house, the success of the parliament forces at Newbury, alleging also that they had taken 1000 arms; that if the parliamentarians could have secured one hour more of day light, they would, in all probability, have totally routed and dispersed the whole of the king's army; and that since the battle, the parliamentarians had taken many stragglers prisoners. The king's own carriage was also captured, and that of general Forth, with his lady in it.

Oldmixon describes some places and stations as taken up by the several armies, which are not noticed either by Clarendon or Ludlow. He says that, "On the 22nd of October, his majesty, who had freed the parliamentarians with a party of horse, drew off his infantry from Kingsclear, and marched

to Newbury, as the parliament army did to Reading. The next day the latter came to Aldermaston, and two days after to Bucklebury heath, about five miles from Newbury "

After describing the king's position at Newbury, and the movements of the parliamentary army in reference to the battle of the 27th, he adds, that, "Towards four o'clock, Manchester hearing the cannon play from Speen hill, played also on Doleman's house at Shaw, with two small pieces of ordnance, and commanded a party of 500 musqueteers, as a forlorn hope to attack it, which they did, and beat those who sallied out of the house into their works." Here we must call the attention of our readers to a considerable variance in the relation of this affair by Clarendon, he stating, that Manchester's force, which at this juncture attacked Shaw house and the adjacent field, consisted of 1200 horse and 3000 foot. We are inclined, for the reason which we have assigned in the former part of this work, to place the greater reliance on Clarendon's account. Oldmixon continues, that "the reason why they, the parliamentarians did no more, was said to be because night came on. The action on this side is generally condemned as imperfectly performed, and gave occasion of complaint against one another, by Manchester and Cromwell; and that the king's army was not as entirely routed as ever was any army, is imputed wholly to the bad service on Shaw side." Cromwell afterwards accused Manchester to the commons, "of having betrayed the parliament out of cowardice, for that he might, at the king's last being at Newbury, when he drew off his cannon, very easily have defeated his whole army, if he would have permitted it to have been engaged. That he, Cromwell, went to him, and shewed him evidently how it might be done, and desired him, if he would give him leave with his own brigade of horse, to charge the king's army in their retreat, and the earl with the rest of his army might look on, and do as he should think fit; but that the earl had, notwithstanding all importunity used by him and other officers, positively and obstinately refused to permit him, giving no other reason, but that he said, if they did engage and overthrew the king's army, the king would always have another army to keep up the war, but if that army which he commanded, should be overthrown, before the other under



probably advanced by different routes towards that town. In Heath's Chronicle, the parliamentarians are described as marching "to Aldermaston* and thence privately over the water to Padworth and so to Bucklebury heath." Oldmixon, it will be recollected, also mentions Aldermaston and Bucklebury heath as the line of march, which latter place, he says, they reached only on the third day. From thence they proceeded to Thatcham. Their arrival here, appears from Clarendon, to have been the first precise intimation which the king received of their advance against him. This is the more surprising, if the accounts be correct, that the parliamentarians occupied at least two, if not three days in their march. It must be supposed, therefore, that they successfully used every precaution to prevent the intelligence of their plan and movements reaching the king. The somewhat indirect course which they pursued, might also have been adopted for the purpose of deceiving him, as to the immediate object of their march. On the Friday, when the whole of the parliamentary army had approached to Newbury, (for it is evident from the skirmishes which had taken place for a day or two before, that some of their force, probably cavalry, had previously advanced near the town,) and their generals had ascertained the strength of the king's position, they thought it too hazardous then to risk a general engagement. Waller's division, which was the largest, proceeded, therefore, that night to Chievely, with the design of making, with greater secrecy and effect, the attack on the Speen side, which was, probably, esteemed the weakest or least guarded quarter of the king; in the meanwhile, the remainder of the parliamentary army occupied the attention of the royalists on the Shaw side.

That Waller completely attained his object of concealing his march, and the plan and point of his attack, appears clear, from the circumstance of his passing the river at Bagnor with little resistance, and achieving his attempt on the village of Speen. The attacks by Manchester on the north-east sides of the town, by Shaw, were considered by the royalists as the points where the principal force of the parliamentarians

* [illegible] to Lord [illegible] of Manchester [illegible] Aldermaston [illegible] then belonging to Sir Humphrey Foster [illegible] now to William Congreve, esq.

was concentrated. The royalists most likely were also ignorant of the number and strength of their assailants, thinking that they could not in the short space of time have drawn together so formidable a force. The well-laid plan of attack of the parliamentary leaders seems to have been skilfully carried into execution by Waller, the success of whose operations was their chief reliance. So completely unlooked for was any serious movement in the direction which he took, that the king and his suite had a narrow escape of being taken prisoners. We therefore incline to imagine that the attacks of the parliamentarians, on the Shaw quarter, where probably they met with greater resistance than they had anticipated, had a two-fold object in view,—that of diverting the attention of the royalists, and of affording time for Waller's division to make its approach on the other side, from Chieveley through Winterborne;* and, then, if they had been able fully to carry their points at Shaw, to advance and make a junction with Waller, and to encompass the king between them. It seems strange and somewhat unaccountable that Charles should have been so little aware, as it is stated he was, of the resolute resistance and repulsion which the parliamentarians experienced on the Shaw quarter. It can only be explained by his attention being wholly engrossed in the after part of the day, by the transactions at Speen. Manchester, also, from the loss which his force sustained, had, perhaps, like the king, judged too much from the events under his own immediate notice, and had formed an inadequate opinion of the advantages obtained by Waller. This may have induced the earl not to incur the risk of bringing on a fresh engagement by attacking the king in the night, at the commencement of his retreat to Wallingford. But it may, we think, more correctly be inferred, that Manchester began to penetrate the ultimate designs of Cromwell and the other influential leaders of the parliamentary army, namely, the entire destruction and ruin of the king, and thereon to establish their own exaltation.

Although wishing to check and restrain the royal authority within what he judged to be reasonable and constitutional bounds, Manchester was still anxious, if practicable, to effect an accommodation with Charles and to prevent the utter

* The route stated in Rushworth, page 734.



destruction of the monarchial government, the total ruin of which he foresaw would be attended by the demolition of the nobility and the rise of Cromwell or some other daring and ambitious man amongst the parliamentary officers. Actuated therefore by these motives, he opposed, or at least did not strenuously second, the further attack of the king's army, either on that occasion, or when Charles again appeared before Donnington castle, although, as Cromwell alleges, so strongly urged thereto by him. This conduct, as we have shewn, drew on him the jealousy and suspicion of the commons.

The aggregate amount of the parliamentary forces we have stated to have been estimated at 16,000 horse and foot, and that the royal army scarcely exceeded half that number.

Charles had committed an irretrievable error in weakening his army by despatching the earl of Northampton with three regiments of horse to the relief of Banbury castle. This and other parts of the king's conduct sufficiently evince that he was deceived as to the amount of the force of his adversaries, and had miscalculated as to the short space of time in which they would be enabled to collect and bring this strength to bear upon him at Newbury. Heath's chronicle states, with every probability of truth, the loss on the side of the royalists to have been 3000, and on the part of the parliamentarians, 2500. These mutual losses are a proof of the obstinacy and resolution with which the royal army struggled against such an almost overwhelming superiority, and corroborate the opinion that Manchester had begun to relent. For had he persisted in oppressing the king on his retreat, after the sacrifice of more than one third of his army, the total destruction of the royalists must have ensued. We will here offer a few details and incidents which may contribute additional information and interest to our readers. These we have not blended with our general narrative, lest they might tend rather to confuse than to elucidate the subject, particularly as they are in some minor points at variance with the foregoing accounts, although substantially confirming them. In accordance, therefore, with our plan and design of submitting all the particulars which we can collect, we shall shortly notice these circumstances.

Rushworth says, that after the second battle of Newbury, the parliamentarians remained there till Saturday the 2nd of

November, when they marched in the direction of Oxford, where the king was recruiting his army. That night, the head quarters of the parliamentarians were at Compton. The next day they advanced towards Blewbury, and their head quarters were at Harwell. A council of war having been held, it was thought impracticable to march with their carriages beyond Abingdon, on account of the roads being deep and impassable. In consequence of this determination, on the Tuesday following, (the 5th,) all their horse were drawn up on Chilton plain, and orders were issued for the whole army to commence, on the next day, their return to Newbury. On which day, they accordingly retreated for that town, and the same night some of the king's forces advanced from Wallingford and took up those quarters which the parliamentarians had, in the morning, relinquished. The latter having again reached Newbury, on Thursday they were informed by their scouts, that the king's whole army with the accession of prince Rupert and the earl of Northampton's brigade, and of such other forces as could be spared from the several garrisons, were advancing for the purpose of relieving Donnington castle and of fetching away the ordnance and carriages left there after the last battle. This information it seems they did not at first believe. In the evening of the following day, Friday the 8th, this intelligence was confirmed, and it was added that the royalists were within only five or six miles of them. Orders were immediately given by the parliamentarian commanders, for their horse to assemble early the next morning, and the commanders proceeded to reconnoitre the ground in order to determine where they might most advantageously oppose his majesty's march. But the king, on the present occasion, was too much on the alert, for the next morning, when the parliamentarian troops were collected, they discovered that Charles had not only accomplished his intention, but that his army was drawn up in order of battle, in the manner which we have already related. The parliamentarians seem in their turn, in the present instance, to have been taken by surprise, and to have been thrown into some confusion and disarrangement, as will be shewn by a letter dated "Newbery, the 10th Nov., eleven at night," which Skippon wrote to the earl of Essex, giving him an account of this affair. He says, that the king had surrounded the castle before they could

collect their forces together, and that they were obliged to stand on the defensive with their foot and cannon "within those sorry works which we had cast up but the same day, the rather because our horse held their rendezvous upon Newberry Wash, on the other side of the town, and being to march through the town before they could come on that side where our foot were engaged." It was night, he says, before the horse could all be assembled. This delay, the distance being inconsiderable, of the arrival of the main body of their cavalry, who probably were dispersed in foraging parties, indicates how totally unexpected was the king's return. Skippon, in this letter, attributes to Charles the design of endeavouring to entice the parliamentarians to pursue him on his retreat with the hope of giving battle with greater advantage or of making a sudden detour, and by that means to regain the possession of Newbury in the rear of the parliamentarians. This general gives but an indifferent account of the state of the parliamentary army, and urges that they should be put into winter quarters at Reading, "where they may be encouraged, re-collected, and recruited."

This letter which was written as an apology, and in extenuation and excuse for the want of activity and energy on the part of the parliamentarians, appears to have afforded but little satisfaction to Essex, who in a reply strongly reprehended their conduct. This produced from Skippon another letter two days after, also dated at Newbury, in further exculpation of the parliamentary army, and adds, that if dishonourable opinions and censures fall upon us for this, they must be endured, though undeserved by us." From this latter observation it is evident that the conduct of the parliamentary army, on this occasion, was blamed not only by the earl of Essex, but by the public in general.

The earl of Manchester, in his statement of the business to the house of lords, insinuates against Cromwell a want of zealous co-operation, and that on his receiving the orders to assemble his horse the next morning on Newbury Wash, he came to the earl in a discontented manner and asked him if he intended to "flea his horse, for if he called them to a rendezvous, he might have their skins but no service from them." We may conclude therefore that the parliamentary cavalry were in a very harassed

and exhausted condition, from the engagements and marches which they had recently encountered; which circumstance may account for their not having been brought into the field of action till after the opportunity of effective resistance of the royal army had escaped.

When intelligence was received of the king's retreat, Manchester and other officers went out to ascertain the fact, and having rode about a mile to the top of a hill, they thence discerned the whole of the royal army retiring in an orderly manner. A council of war having been held, it was resolved not to attempt to molest them, and by "general consent it was thought fit to march back to Newbury."

That the battles of Newbury were contested with much of the characteristic courage and determination of the English, we think is obvious, from the different accounts which have been handed down to us. As one, among many instances of conspicuous bravery, we are told that colonel Lisle in his three successful charges in the fields near Shaw house, in the first used for his field-word—"For the Crown;" in the second—"For prince Charles;" and in the third—"For the duke of York." Had they returned again, he had resolved "to have gone over all the king's children till he had not left one rebel to fight against the crown or the royal progeny." Lisle himself fought without defensive armour, and having laid aside his buff doublet, led on his men in "a good Holland shirt," a mode then not unfrequently adopted by the cavaliers of inspiring their soldiers with courage, either by rendering their officers more conspicuous, or by shewing on their part a contempt of the enemy and of personal danger.* But the reader, while he may admire and lament the valour and "civil butchery" exhibited in these unhappy intestine conflicts,

"That made poor England weep in streams of blood,"

will at the same time fervently cherish the hope that—

"No more shall trenching war channel her fields
Nor bruise her flow'rets with the armed hoofs
Of hostile paces."

It is alleged that a great number of the slain in this battle were interred in a large pit near the tower of Newbury church.

* The following stanza from a cavalier song of the day, and highly popular with that party, alludes to this custom:—

"My friend David Waller in doublet white,
And without any arms, either rusty or bright,
Charged through them twice like a little sprite,
Which nobody can deny."

In concluding our relation of the second battle of Newbury, it may not be considered misplaced if we insert a short biographical notice of the two distinguished parliamentary generals, Essex and Manchester. The earl of Manchester is represented by Clarendon as a man of a gentle and generous nature, and as entertaining even an affection for the person of the king, whom he had attended into Spain. He had in early life, when lord Mandeville, married into the family of the celebrated duke of Buckingham. His connexion with this powerful favourite gave him great interest with the court. On the death of his first wife and the assassination of Buckingham, he quitted the court and retired into the country, having previously married as his second wife, a daughter of the earl of Warwick, who was a great patron of the puritans. In this retirement, the neglect which his father experienced from the court, and the influence of the family with which he was connected by his second marriage, together with "the bewitching popularity which flowed upon him with a wonderful torrent," and his own impression that the court was inclined to injure and even to destroy the country, led him to think favourably of the cause of the parliamentarians. He was further confirmed in these sentiments by the necessity which he felt of endeavouring, by cultivating the support of the parliament, to protect his father, who had become extremely obnoxious to the court. Having himself been accused of high treason, self-defence now left him no alternative but that of joining the parliament. He held for some time the important station of speaker, *pro tempore*, of the house of lords. During the protectorate of Cromwell he was an object of his jealousy and hatred, being more than suspected of a detestation of the execution of the king, and of an anxious wish for the restoration. On the latter event taking place, he was received into favour and appointed lord chamberlain by Charles II.

The earl of Essex, as we have before stated, had quitted, we conceive, in some disgust, the command of the army, just previous to the last battle of Newbury. He was the son of the celebrated but unfortunate favourite of queen Elizabeth. The young earl was at Eton college at the time that his father was beheaded. The melancholy and severe fate of the father, rendered the son an object of more than ordinary interest.

James was no sooner established in the possession of the crown of England, than he restored to Essex his father's titles and estates. The king's eldest son, prince Henry, being of about the same age with Essex took great delight in his society, and the latter was admitted to the young prince's most intimate and familiar companionship. On one occasion, prince Henry and Essex were amusing themselves at tennis; a dispute having arisen, high words ensued, and the prince in his passion told Essex that he was the son of a traitor. The young nobleman who possessed all the fire and impetuosity of his father, being highly exasperated at this insult, struck the prince a severe blow on the head with his racket, which caused the blood to flow. The intelligence of this affray was quickly brought to the king, who having examined into the business, and being informed of the provocation, dismissed Essex without any very severe reprimand. But the king, with a prophetic spirit, told his son, "that he who did strike him there, would be sure, with more violent blows, to strike his enemy in times to come."*

The earl of Essex was twice married. In very early life to the lady Frances Howard, daughter of the earl of Suffolk, from whom he was in a few years divorced. He afterwards married Elizabeth Paulett, a daughter of Sir William Paulett, of Hedington, in Wiltshire. By her he had a son who died in 1636. The earl afterwards separated himself from this lady. We may conjecture it was in allusion to Essex's unfortunate matrimonial connexions, that it is related of the earl of Carnarvon, that previous to the first battle of Newbury, he rode through the town with his sword drawn, and in derision took the measure of a gate (through which he hoped to see Essex brought as a prisoner), to ascertain, as he sarcastically observed, if it were wide enough to admit the parliament general's *horns*.† Essex had served, in his youth, for some years with great credit in the Netherlands, and was also in the expedition on an attempt upon Cadiz. He returned to England with a high military reputation. "He was," Clarendon says, "the most popular man in the kingdom, and the darling of the swordmen."

Previous to the civil wars in England, he was appointed by the king, lieutenant-general of the army against the Scots. He afterwards received the staff of office of lord chamberlain.

* Codrington's Life of Essex. † More's Berkshire Queries.



But notwithstanding these favours conferred on him, he began to be estranged from the court and to shew a strong predilection towards the popular cause. The parliament, anxious to win to their side so distinguished a nobleman and experienced a soldier, omitted no opportunity of working upon the love of popularity and the ambition of Essex. When the civil wars broke out, he was solicited and consented to accept the command of the parliamentary forces: and such was the popularity of the general and the cause, that in London no less than 4000 enlisted in one day. Nevertheless, it would be an injustice to the character and memory of Essex, to attribute his adherence to the parliamentary cause wholly to an inordinate passion for popularity, or to the suggestions of ambition (although these motives doubtless had their influence), but also to a love of his country, and to a conviction that the measures of the court were calculated and intended to abridge and destroy the liberties of the people. In these unhappy wars, with the exception of the disastrous result of the campaign in Cornwall, he fully sustained his military renown.

Such was the high opinion entertained of his character and influence, that in August, 1644, Charles himself addressed a letter, written with his own hand, to Essex, when they were both in Cornwall, in which letter the king strongly and feelingly urged the earl to use the present opportunity to join with his majesty, "heartily and really in the settling of those things which they had both professed constantly to be their only aim." The only impediment to this blessed work, the king says, can be the want of mutual confidence, and pledges himself to give the earl and his army such eminent marks of his confidence and value, as shall remove all distrust. Similar topics were expressed in a letter about the same time from the earl of Brentford, and in another subscribed by lord Hopton and the commanders of the royal army. Essex, deeming it either incompatible with his duty and engagements to the parliament, or mistrustful of the sincerity of these overtures, replied to lord Brentford, "that it was not in his commission to be concerned in any such treaty, nor could he betray the trust reposed in him by the parliament." Essex having sent these letters to the parliament (perhaps with a hope that they might lead to an accommodation), they were read at a conference in the





SHAW HOUSE, BERKS.

painted chamber, and it was ordered that the thanks of both houses should be returned to the earl for his fidelity in this affair. On the passing of the self-denying ordinance in the house of lords, Essex, Manchester, and Waller, with other commanders, surrendered their commissions. The former retired in dissatisfaction to his seat at Eltham, in Kent, where he died in September 1646, at the age of 51, without leaving any issue. Some of his friends, Clarendon says, attributed his death to poison, but there does not appear to have been any adequate grounds for this suspicion.

His death, however, gave great satisfaction to Cromwell and his party; the credit and interest which Essex possessed, and his disapprobation of Cromwell and his measures having been a constant source of alarm and anxiety to that designing and aspiring leader.

As a statement bearing upon the second battle of Newbury, we will just observe, that in a very old oak window on the eastern side of the library of Shaw house, looking towards the village of Shaw, is a brass plate with the following inscription:

HANC JUXTA FENESTRAM
REX CAROLUS PRIMUS
INSTANTE OBSIDIONE
SCLOPPOPETRÆ ICTU TANTUM NON
TRAJECTUS FUIT
DIE OCTOB: XXVII MDCXLIV.

That a ball penetrated this spot, we entertain no doubt, but we think it apocryphal that the king was the object. That Charles was frequently at Shaw house, between the interval of his arrival at Newbury and the battle of the 27th, is very probable; but, if we are to take Clarendon as our guide, we doubt if he took up his *residence* there during any part of that time: the town, for this purpose, would afford him greater security. That he was *not* there at the attack of Shaw house on the 27th, appears *certain*, from the various accounts we have given. At the same time, he might have been there on the day or two previous, during which, a few skirmishes ensued, and on one of those occasions, the ball in question might have been fired at him. Having thus stated the circumstances, we leave our readers to form their own conclusions. There are a

few curious relicts of the period still preserved in Shaw house, particularly a hat and cloak of the Cromwellian fashion, and which were most likely left there when the peaceable possession of the house was given up to its owner, and have since been retained as a memorial of the interesting events which passed within its walls.

The two armies having separated for their winter quarters, the royalists were principally distributed at Oxford, Wallingford, Marlborough, Basing, Odiham, and Blewbury, and the parliamentarians chiefly at Reading, Henley, Abingdon, and Farnham. In these stations the latter are represented as having been little regardful either of friends or enemies, and that all indiscriminately experienced the mischief of their vicinity, particularly "in houses and woods." In short, every thing on which they could "fasten their hands" was considered by them as fair plunder. This description of the conduct of the parliamentary soldiers, and of their indulgence in military license, will be found to have been, at least, equally applicable to the royalists. From "the Memorials" we are told of a few casual and desultory adventures which appear to have been continually arising between the parties during the cessation of more general and extended hostilities.

A party of the royalists who were proceeding from Donnington castle and Basing house, for the purpose of joining lord Hopton, in some part of Wiltshire, in the course of their march plundered the country and attacked the west country carriers. Colonel Devereux with a party of the parliamentarians from Marlborough fell upon the royalists, rescued the plunder which they had seized, and took prisoners their commander-in-chief sir Anthony St. Leger, major Hyde, and several other officers, with 30 troopers, and 50 horses and arms. In February, 1645, colonel Fiennes (who, we conjecture, was stationed at Newbury or in its vicinity,) detached a part of his regiment which encountered some of the king's troops near that town, and succeeded in capturing 40 horse and all their arms, and about £100 in "contribution money," which the royalists had levied on the country. Major Maxwell, a captain Paddon, and 16 soldiers of the royalists were taken prisoners in this affair. In April, a detachment from Abingdon, under a

captain Blundell, fell in with a party of the garrison of Donnington castle, with whom they had an engagement, in which the royalists lost a captain and some soldiers; a colonel and a major were captured by the parliamentarians. Colonel Fiennes also, again "sent out a party near Newbury," who made a successful attack on some of the royalists, taking 17 prisoners and arms, and all their horse; after which, he summoned Brocas house, where a garrison or a party of the king's were stationed, who flying on the approach of the parliamentarians, were pursued, with some execution, by a major Temple. We find that sir Thomas Fairfax having left with Cromwell 4000 horse and foot to watch and straighten Oxford, proceeded from Reading to Salisbury. On his return, as we presume, from that city, he came to Newbury, for we are informed, that in May, Fairfax being there, "faced Donnington castle and took about ten officers and other prisoners." From thence he proceeded to Blewbury and to Witney, with the intention of joining Cromwell, who was in the pursuit of the royalists. During these operations, the royal garrison of Basing house continued under the blockade of the parliamentarians. In September, a party, consisting of about 120 of the king's horse, issued from the garrisons of Wallingford and Donnington castle, and having effected a junction, marched to the neighbourhood of Reading, with the design of levying contributions on the country. On their retiring, they were attacked by a small force of horse commanded by colonel Baxter (probably a detachment of the blockading troops before Basing house.) The royalists having faced about, Baxter's party suffered severely, and most likely would have been entirely cut up or taken, had not 100 of the parliamentary horse, who were accidentally quartered in Reading, come to their relief. They routed the royalists, recovered all the prisoners, and captured their commander captain Barker and 25 others, with 50 horse and 40 arms.

Frequent reference in the course of this work having been made to Basing house, we think it will not be inconsistent with our object, if we here relate the expedition of colonel Gage for the relief of that garrison; more especially that on its capture, the operations for the final siege of Donnington castle



commenced. This expedition was one of the most interesting and well conducted of any during the whole of the civil wars, and colonel Gage, in the prosecution of it, displayed great courage and military skill.

The affair took place in the interval between the two battles of Newbury. In the course of the year 1644, the garrison of Basing house, which was the seat of the Marquis of Winchester, and where that nobleman commanded in person, had been severely straighteued and closely besieged by the parliamentarian troops of Hampshire and Sussex, under colonels Norton, Onslow, Jarvis, Whitehead, and Morley, the principal command being vested in the former officer, who is represented as a man of spirit and of greater rank and fortune than the others. The king in his march to the west had been desirous, at the earnest request of his council, to relieve this garrison, which was esteemed a place of considerable importance, but finding that the attempt would too much retard his march, he was compelled to decline the undertaking. The marquis, learning that he could expect no assistance from Charles, urgently importuned his majesty's council "to provide in some manner for his relief, and not to suffer his person, and a place from whence the rebels received so much prejudice, to fall into their hands."

The marchioness, who was sister to the earl of Essex, being at Oxford, strongly seconded the wishes of her husband. The Roman catholics, also, "who were numerous in the town," zealously offered the aid of themselves and their servants, in this service. The council, anxious to accomplish this important object, held several conferences with the military officers on the undertaking. The governor opposed the design, "as full of more difficulties and liable to greater damages than any soldier who understood command, would expose himself and the king's service to, and that he would not suffer any of the small garrison that was under his charge, to be hazarded in the attempt." There was, undoubtedly, much reason for the governor's caution. Basing was near 40 miles from Oxford, and the parliamentarians had strong garrisons of horse and foot at Abingdon and Reading, besides a body of horse and dragoons quartered at Newbury. As the parliamentary horse,

therefore, were constantly scouring the roads in the neighbourhood of those towns, it was thought impracticable that a party could reach Basing in safety, or, having done so, that they could retreat without being discovered and intercepted by the forces of their opponents. A further message from the marquis having been received, to the purport that "he could not defend the garrison for above ten days, and must then submit to the worst conditions the rebels were like to grant to his person and to his religion," the practicability of the enterprise was again canvassed by the council. Notwithstanding that the governor still retained his former opinion against the undertaking, Gage volunteered the attempt. This offer was thankfully and cheerfully accepted. A force of from 500 to 600 men having been collected, partly by the noblemen who were there supplying their servants with horses, and by volunteers; Gage marched from Oxford in the beginning of the night, and by the morning reached a wood near Wallingford, where he refreshed his troops. The governor of Winchester having promised, that on any undertaking for the relief of Basing, he would send 100 horse and 300 foot from his garrison to the assistance of the enterprise, a messenger was despatched from hence for this aid, with directions, that the Winchester forces should enter Basing park in the rear of the parliamentarians, at the same time that Gage should make his approach on the opposite side. During these movements, the marquis was to employ the parliamentarians, by making frequent sallies from the house. Having made these necessary arrangements, Gage prosecuted his march through by-lanes to Aldermaston, "a village out of any great road," where he intended to halt for the night. As a precaution against discovery, the royalists wore "orange tawny scarfs and ribbons," (the parliamentarian colours) in order that they might be taken for the soldiers of that party. By this artifice, he hoped to reach Basing unobserved. Unfortunately a party of his horse which was sent forward to Aldermaston, found at that place a few of the parliamentarians, and in their ardour, forgetting their disguise, the royalists attacked them. By this means the enterprise was discovered, and notice was quickly sent to the troops before Basing of the approaching danger. This occurrence



obliged Gage to make a much shorter stay at Aldermaston than he intended, or than the weariness of his men required.

About eleven o'clock at night he re-commenced his march, which he continued all night; some of the horsemen dismounted that the foot soldiers might ride, and others of them took some of the infantry on their horses behind them. He arrived within a mile of Basing between five and six in the morning of Wednesday. Here he received information that he could not have the promised assistance from the garrison at Winchester, by reason of the strong bodies of the parliamentarian horse which were stationed between that city and Basing. This disappointment compelled Gage to alter his plan, and instead of dividing his force as he intended, if his march had been undiscovered, and he had received the co-operation of the garrison of Winchester, he determined to advance in one compact body. He arranged his force accordingly, and delivered to his men a short but spirited address, and commanded each man to tie a white ribbon or handkerchief on the right arm, which sign and the word St. George had been communicated to the marquis, in order that, in the sallies and attacks, the royalists might distinguish each other.

In this order they marched resolutely towards the house, colonel Web leading the right and lieutenant-colonel Bunkly the left wing of the horse; Gage placing himself at the head of the infantry. They quickly reached a large field, where they discerned "a body of five cornets of horse very full," standing in good order to receive them, "upon a little rising of a hill." Before Gage could attack this body of horse, he was obliged to pass between two hedges which were lined by the parliamentarians with musqueteers, from whom his horse received a sharp volley; but regardless of this, they gallantly charged the parliamentarian horse, who, after a shorter resistance, than from the well known courage of their commander, Norton had been anticipated, gave way, and precipitately retired to a place of safety, beyond which they could not be pursued. After an engagement of about two hours with the parliamentary foot, the latter were forced, after a resolute opposition, to retreat. A free entrance was thus gained on that side to the house. Gage only remained long enough to

put in such ammunition as he had brought with him, and then immediately marched to Basingstoke, about two miles distant, having previously sent 100 foot, under the command of an officer of the garrison, to the village of Basing. At Basingstoke he found an ample store of provisions and ammunition, a considerable part of which he succeeded in transporting to Basing house the same day. In the meantime the detachment which was sent to the village of Basing attacked the parliamentarians who were quartered there, and killing 40 or 50 of them, compelled the others to fly to the church, where they were taken prisoners, and among them two captains, Jarvis and Jephson, who are described as "the two eldest sons of two of the greatest rebels of that country, and both heirs to good fortunes." These were carried prisoners to Basing house. Gage having spent that and the following day in sending provisions and necessaries to the garrison, and considering that it was now well supplied for two months, began to think of effecting his retreat to Oxford. This was become the more imperative and difficult, as Norton had rallied his men, and had reinforced them with other troops which were quartered at a distance; whereby he had rendered himself stronger than at the first encounter. Gage was also apprised that some of the parliamentary troops had marched from Abingdon to Aldermaston, and that some of those which were quartered at Reading and Newbury, had taken possession of "two other villages on the river Kennet," with the design of intercepting and opposing his retreat. In this dilemma, the royalist commander had recourse to stratagem. He issued orders, which he took care should reach the enemies quarters, to two or three villages in the vicinity of Basing, that they should by the next day at noon, furnish further supplies to the garrison, which if they failed to do, he would send a thousand horse to fire such villages. This scheme for deceiving and misleading his adversaries having been carried into effect, about eleven o'clock on Thursday night (the second night after he arrived there), all his men being assembled, and being furnished with guides intimately acquainted with the country he marched from Basing without sound of trumpet or drum, and undiscovered passed the Kennet "by a ford near a bridge, the horse taking



the foot *en croup.*" This bridge the parliamentarians had broken down, and thereby hoped to prevent any passage in that direction. The royalists continued their march by by-ways. In the morning they succeeded in passing the Thames, at a ford a little more than a mile from Reading, and without meeting with any enemy, reached Wallingford in safety that night. Here he refreshed his men, and arrived at Oxford the next day, having lost only two captains and some other men, in all to the number of eleven: about forty or fifty were wounded, but not dangerously.

This enterprise, Clarendon says, from whose account we have taken it, redounded very much to the reputation of the commander, and was confessed by enemies as well as friends, to have been as soldierly an action as any that had been performed in the war on either side. Some time in the year 1645, Cromwell sat down before Basing house, which he stormed and took, putting most of the garrison to the sword.

Immediately after Basing house had surrendered to the parliamentarians, it was resolved that decisive measures should be adopted for the taking of Donnington castle, the strength and obstinate resistance of that garrison having been, and still continuing, a great annoyance to the parliamentarians. It may be supposed that Charles had thrown into the castle as numerous a garrison as it could possibly accommodate, together with all requisite supplies. It is evident that the garrison had been considerably reinforced, or it could not have undertaken the different affairs, or have sustained the various losses, which we have related. Indeed it may be considered as constituting the chief strong hold of the king in this direction. If, therefore, the parliamentarians could succeed in the capture of the castle, the strength and resources of the royalists in this quarter would be materially diminished. For this object, letters were sent from the house of commons to the committees of the three counties, Oxford, Berks, and Bucks, with directions to join their forces, and to prepare for again besieging Donnington castle.* On the 27th of October, 1645, to colonel Dalbier was confided the command of this force. Orders were also

* It is from the before quoted work, "the Memorials," that we have gleaned these few particulars.

issued for levying money for the use of the troops to be employed in the siege. In the beginning of November, Dalbier marched with the forces of the above mentioned three counties, for the purpose of coalescing with those of Hampshire, who were ordered to join him. On the 12th of November, Dalbier halted at Aldermaston, where he remained until he had collected and organised his whole strength, preparatory to his proceeding in form to lay siege to the castle.

The caution of Dalbier and the force placed under his command, indicate the importance which the parliamentarians attached to the possession of Donnington castle, and the apprehension which was entertained of the resolution of the commander and his garrison. Notwithstanding these formidable preparations, we are disposed to think that Dalbier, either from the advance of the season, or from other motives, did not prosecute any very active hostilities against the castle until the spring of the following year, and that his army, in the mean while, was distributed in Newbury and the surrounding villages.

We find, that in January, 1646, a party from Wallingford and Donnington having united, fell upon the parliamentarians at Kintbury, and took prisoner a Mr. Web, but the royalists having imprudently dismounted with the view of plundering, the parliamentarians rallied and attacked them, killing a knight and two men, and capturing 20 of their horse and two prisoners. Some time after this, about March, the castle garrison, who seem to have been resolved to sustain to the last, their reputation, made a sudden sally on Dalbier's troops, of whom many were killed and 50 were taken prisoners. This gallant affair appears to be almost the last act of resistance of the garrison, and we now rapidly approach the time when all further opposition was rendered hopeless, and could be attended with no other result than the further effusion of the blood of themselves and their fellow countrymen. The royal cause, after the decisive battle of Naseby, had become utterly desperate. Such, at this period, was the disorganised state of the king's troops, that Clarendon, in reference to lord Hopton being invested with the command of the western army at the commencement of the year, says, "it was a heavy imposition upon the lord Hopton, (to the which, nothing but the most habituated duty



and obedience could have submitted,) to take charge of those horse, whom only their friends feared, and their enemies laughed at, being only terrible in plunder, and resolute in running away." The fortress of Donnington castle may be considered as one which had most tenaciously supported the cause of Charles, and abandoned it by his express command, only, in the last extremity. Towards the end of March, the castle being much " indammaged by the granadoes," and having been peremptorily summoned by Dalbier, the governor requested liberty to send to Oxford for instructions. On the first of April, 1646, orders having been received to that effect, the castle was, with six pieces of ordnance, and all the arms and ammunition, surrendered upon articles to Dalbier, for the use of the parliament. It may be deserving of remark, that on this very day the celebrated note of Montrevil, the French ambassador, is dated, in which he invites the king to place himself unreservedly under the protection of the Scotch army, then before Newark, alleging, that he had received from the Scotch generals, the most satisfactory assurances of the honourabe reception of Charles in their camp, and of their earnest endeavours to conciliate a pacific arrangement between the monarch and his parliament. To dilate on the abandonment by the Scottish leaders of these professions, and the betrayal of the confidence reposed in them by the king, would be irrevalent, further than to say, that Charles was induced or compelled by the Scottish chiefs, to give unqualified directions that all the garrisons which still remained in his possession, should be delivered up to the parliament. The king privately quitted Oxford the 27th of April; and on the 14th of May, that city, and shortly afterwards Wallingford, Farringdon, and Banbury were surrendered. It is alleged that the governor, colonel Boys, did not experience from the parliamentarians, that consideration which his inflexible fidelity to his royal master merited, even from an enemy; his opponents, ungenerously, remembering the frequent discomfitures which they had sustained, rather than the heroic courage he had displayed in the performance of the duty confided to him.

The field which tradition points out as that in which Dalbier himself was encamped, and where the treaty for the surrender





DONNINGTON CASTLE, BERKS.





of the castle was negotiated, is still called "Dalbier's meadow." It is that which lies on the eastern side of the castle, and near the garden and park of Donnington castle house.

A petition for redress was presented to the commons "from the poor inhabitants near Donnington castle," whose houses had been burnt by the governor. This devastation of private property had been rendered necessary, in all probability, to ensure the defence of the castle, and to prevent such houses being rendered available by the besiegers as means and points of attack. This petition, together with the articles for the surrender, were read in the house. A petition also from Newbury was transmitted for compensation for the sufferings which that town had experienced during the civil war. This latter petition was submitted to the committee of the three counties to consider the proper way of granting relief.

Whether, ultimately, the unfortunate sufferers of Donnington and the inhabitants of Newbury obtained any redress or compensation, we have not been able to ascertain, but we fear, as is too often the case, when the end is obtained, that those whose private interests have been unsparingly sacrificed, are but little regarded.

A short historical notice of Donnington castle cannot, we think, be introduced more appropriately than at this place. It appears by a manuscript in the Cotton library, that the castle belonged, in the reign of Edward II. to Walter Abberbury, son and heir of Thomas Abberbury, who had given the king one hundred shillings or five pounds sterling for it, and towards the latter part of the reign of Richard II. a license was obtained for rebuilding it by sir Richard Abberbury, who had been one of the guardians of that monarch during his minority. At what time sir Richard Abberbury died, and when and how this castle and manor ceased to be his property, cannot, Lysons informs us, be ascertained, as the inquisition taken after his death, is not to be found in the tower. It seems that he was living in 1397, his son, who was that year the sheriff of the counties of Berks and Oxford, being described as sir Richard Abberbury the younger. The probability is, we submit, that the castle and honor were sold by the Abberbury's, to John of Gaunt. The poet Chaucer is said to have possessed and inhabited the castle, but Lysons doubts the



correctness of that statement, and thinks it must allude to his son Thomas Chaucer. We cannot however, readily give up the impression, that Donnington castle has been rendered sacred by the abode of the immortal muse of the father of English poetry. It is with pleasure, therefore, we find that Mr. Godwin, in his interesting life of the poet, strongly advocates the opinion that the castle was the residence of Chaucer. Mr. Godwin has, in an able, and as conclusive a manner as the subject will permit, adduced all the authorities bearing on the question. We will therefore take the liberty of profiting very fully by his research and observations. The first authority relied on by him is Leland, the oldest of our English antiquaries, who wrote in the reign of Henry VIII., and states, "there are certain reasons which incline him to believe that the poet was a native of either the county of Oxford, or of that of Berks. Camden, a writer of the reign of Elizabeth, describes Donnington as "a little castle but a fine and proper one, situate with a faire prospect upon the brow of a very pretty hill, full of groves, and which inwardly for the most part letteth in all the light. Built they say it was by sir Richard de Abberbury, knight, who also, under it, founded for poor people, a God's house. Afterward it was the residence of Chaucer, then of the de la Poles; and in our fathers' daies, of Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk." Speght, a cotemporary of Camden, speaking of Donnington castle and park, where to this day, he adds, "standeth an old oke called Chaucer's oke." Evelyn, in his "Sylva," a work published in 1664, in that part which relates to the oak, says—"Nor are we to pass over those memorable trees which so lately flourished in Donnington park, near Newbury, amongst which three were most remarkable from the ingenious planter (if tradition hold) the famous English bard, Geoffrey Chaucer, of which one was called the king's, another the queen's, and a third Chaucer's oak. Mr. Godwin also mentions Ashmole, an antiquary of the same age, as confirming this statement. The author of the life of Chaucer, prefixed to Urry's edition of the poet's works, repeats the information given on this head by Camden, Evelyn, and Ashmole. Grose likewise says that Chaucer purchased it of the son of sir Richard Abberbury, and that the poet retired there about the year 1397.

Mr. Godwin, after stating very fully and candidly the objections which have been urged against, and which he thinks do not outweigh the evidence in favour of this tradition of the poet's residence, adds—"We may therefore on the whole indulge our veneration for Donnington castle, and walk among its ruins, tracing the footsteps of the poet, without danger of subjecting ourselves to the empire of a delusion."

Mr. Godwin conjectures, and we submit with great probability, that Chaucer was indebted for the castle to the bounty of John of Gaunt, who having, on the death of his first duchess, married Catherine Swineford, sister to Chaucer's wife, was desirous of aggrandising his family.

By whatever means it became vested in the family of Chaucer, it appears that it descended to his grand-daughter, Alice, the daughter and heiress of Thomas Chaucer, and that William De la Pole, earl of Suffolk, her third and last husband, became possessed of it, resided there, and extended and improved the buildings of the castle. Upon the attainder of Edmond de la Pole earl of Suffolk, a descendant of the above, in the reign of Henry VII., the castle and domain were vested in the crown. Henry VIII. granted them to the companion of his youth and favourite, Charles Brandon, whose father, sir William Brandon, had been a faithful adherent of Henry VII. when earl of Richmond, bearing his standard at the battle of Bosworth field, where he was slain by the hand of Richard III. In consequence, Henry VII. took the son, then very young, under his own immediate protection, and had him carefully educated and placed in the household of his own son, rather as a companion than a servant to the young prince.* Henry VIII. shortly after the battle of Flodden Field, created Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk;† afterwards he became brother-in-law to the king, by his marriage with the beautiful Mary, the widow and queen-dowager of Louis XII. of France.

Probably on the death of Charles Brandon duke of Suffolk, without issue, it reverted again to the crown, as it appears to have been the property of queen Elizabeth during the reign of her sister Mary, who interposed to prevent Elizabeth's removal from Ashridge in Buckinghamshire, to her castle at Donnington

* Lord Verulam's Henry VII. † Bishop Godwyn's Henry VIII.



in Berkshire ;* to which probably Elizabeth was desirous of going, for greater protection from any attempts to her prejudice on the part of her sister, the queen.

Lysons says,—" about this time it appears to have belonged to Charles earl of Nottingham, the lord admiral: in the year 1570 he certainly was possessed of it, and in that year refounded the hospital of Donnington." We think there must be some anachronism in this statement, for we believe that in 1570 there was no earl of Nottingham.

William lord Howard of Effingham, was at that period, the high admiral of England, who dying in 1573, was succeeded by his eldest son, Charles lord Howard of Effingham, the second baron of that title. It was this lord Howard of Effingham, who was high admiral and commanded the English fleet in 1588, when the invincible armada of Philip of Spain was destroyed. In 1597 he was created by Elizabeth, earl of Nottingham, on account of his good services in taking Cadiz, and destroying the Spanish ships on that expedition.† Notwithstanding his great merits and deserts, he seems on that occasion to have been somewhat indebted for his elevation to the desire on the part of the queen to check and mortify the overbearing pride and pretensions of her favourite Essex, who laid claim to the principal merit of the success of that enterprize. If the earl of Nottingham at that time became possessed of Donnington castle, it might have been granted to him by the queen as a further reward for his eminent services; but if he or his father possessed it so far back as 1570, (about 27 years previous to his elevation to the earldom,) we think it must have been by purchase of the crown, as Elizabeth too highly appreciated the value of property to part with it by donation, unless under very special and extraordinary inducements.

Nottingham continued high admiral till 1618, when he resigned that important post, probably from his great age, being then about 80. He died at the age of 86.

At the period of the siege, the castle was as we have before intimated, the property of the Packers, from whom, by a female heir it has passed to the present owner—the Rev. Winchcombe Henry Howard Hartley. Out of some of the ruins of the

* Miss Aikin's Elizabeth. † Hume.

castle, the Packers built and resided in the modern house now standing immediately under it. Great numbers of cannon balls have been at various times dug and ploughed up in and around the castle, together with relicts of military accoutrements. About 90 years ago, in deepening an old well, four brass cannon, six and four pounders, were discovered.* Within these few years much has been done to clear away the rubbish and ruins which have accumulated, and to trace the foundations and extent of the castle. These investigations are still being carried on, and the outline and extent of the castle can be clearly ascertained.

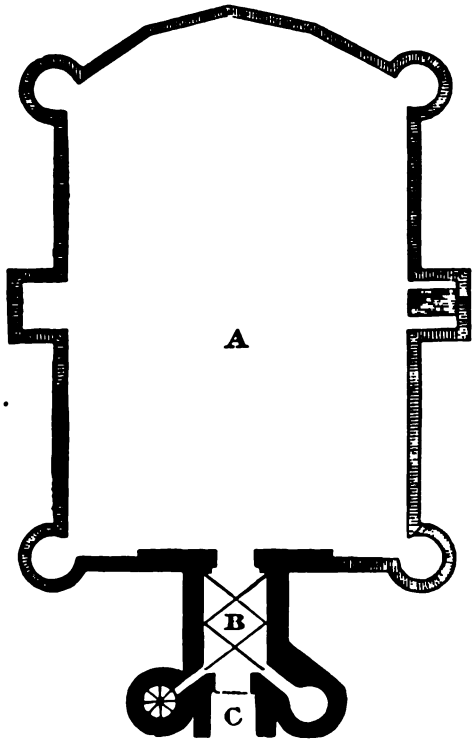
The following description and dimensions we have taken from Boswell's Antiquities, who says that it was obtained from an accurate drawing made by an officer who resided near the spot, describing not only the figure and dimensions of the castle when entire, but also the works thrown up in the civil wars, which are stated to have been carefully traced out amongst the bushes and briers by which they were overgrown. We will give his description:—"The walls of this castle fronted the four cardinal points of the compass, or pointed north, south, east, and west, having the north and south sides perpendicular at the east end. These sides were consequently parallel. The west end terminated in a semi-octagon, or figure of four sides inscribed in the half of a long oval. It was defended by four round towers, two on the angles formed by the concurrence of the north and south sides with the east end, and two others placed on the angles formed by the junction of the same sides with the semi-poligon. The length of the east end, including the towers, was 85 feet, and the extent from east to west, including the thickness of the walls, 120 feet. The entrance was at the east end, through a stone gate house, having a passage 40 feet long, at the end of which is remaining the place for the portcullis or drawbridge. It is flanked by two round towers: that on the south has a staircase. The gate is now standing and the manor-court is held therein. Near the north-west tower was a well, and in the east angle a square building whose sides measured 24 feet, two of these sides were formed by the exterior wall, and enclosed the tower.

"In the circuit round this castle, and almost occupying the

* More's Berkshire Queries.

whole eminence, were the modern works thrown up for its defence. Their shape was that of an irregular pentagon, or five-sided figure, the greatest angle fronting the south, on which was a very capacious bastion. There was another, but smaller, on the north-west angle, and the north-east side was defended by a demi-baston placed on its southern extremity; from the gorge of the great south bastion ran a double, and from thence to the north-east angle of the pantagon a triple rampart, the road passed through these works, close to the gate of the castle."

We have compared the above account of the dimensions and description of the castle, and as far as we can judge, we think it is upon the whole correct. We underneath insert a ground plan of the castle which has been recently made and which corroborates the statement of its size given by Boswell.



GROUND PLAN OF DONNINGTON CASTLE.

A The Castle Garden.
B C The Entrance, with the Towers now standing.





ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, NEWBURY.

Ecclesiastical History of Newbury.

We shall now proceed to lay before the reader such information as we have been enabled to collect relative to the ecclesiastical and other religious establishments connected with the town and parish of Newbury. We have succeeded in obtaining but scanty particulars of the early history of the church, beyond those which have been already published. We believe that but few, (if any,) authentic accounts, relative to this subject, are now extant. There is only one parish church, which is dedicated to St. Nicholas. The living is a rectory, and gives name to a deanery. The patronage of the living is in the crown, and estimated in the king's books at the yearly value of £38 16s 10½d.

The church is a handsome and spacious structure of stone, in the style of the "latter Gothic." The generally received tradition and opinions concur in alleging that it was erected in the latter end of the reign of Henry VII. and in the beginning of that of his son, Henry VIII. Lysons states, but without adducing any authority, that it was built in the last named reign. We are, nevertheless, disposed to question this statement, at least not to acquiesce therein to the full extent. That it might have been about this period improved, and in some respects enlarged, is very probable, but we think we shall be able to notice in some parts of the building, indications of a style of architecture of an earlier date, partaking more of the character of about the fourteenth, rather than that of the close of the fifteenth, and the beginning of the sixteenth centuries. It may assist our investigation if we take a glancing survey of the various styles of church building, which have, at different epochs, prevailed in England. We think that such survey will furnish some strong presumptive evidence in support of our hypothesis.

The "Saracenic" as it has been called by some architects and antiquaries, but the "early Gothic" as it is more commonly termed, was first partially introduced into this country, in the twelfth century, towards the close of the reign of Henry II. but it was then by no means universally adopted. Hence we find, that in some churches and cathedrals of the twelfth and the beginning of the thirteenth century, the two styles are frequently

blended, the one being engrafted on the other; the short solid column, and the Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Norman semicircular arch being retained together with the pointed arch and shafted columns of the Gothic. In the middle of the thirteenth century the "early Gothic" came into general use. The principal characteristics of this style are, the pointed arch, the narrow and lancet shaped windows, and the slender detached pillars, the capitals of which are, for the most part, highly ornamented and enriched with figures of animals and foliage.*

From this time it will be found that the early Gothic superseded the more ancient Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Norman styles. The circular arch and the short massive column, the distinguishing marks of the two latter species of architecture, giving way to the pointed arch and the comparatively slender and more elegant pillar of the Gothic. In the fourteenth century the prevailing and favourite pillar in churches consisted chiefly of an assemblage of shafts united together, constituting one solid column. The windows were much enlarged and with a less pointed arch, divided above by stone mullions, arranged in such various compartments as the taste or fancy of the architect might select. The tower and side walls were embattled. This era of architecture was further particularly marked, by the insertion of large and bold windows at the east and west ends, the upper parts of which windows were ornamented and subdivided with mullions and tracery in fanciful shapes and ramifications.

About the middle of the fifteenth century, the style, which has been by some architects called Burgundian, from its supposed origin in the territories of the duke of Burgundy, arose, and was adopted in England in the reigns of the house of Tudor. Here this order assumed and is familiar to us under the name of the "Tudor style." The sweeping moulding, which previous to the accession of the house of Tudor had uniformly *followed* the line of the pointed arch, then took a new direction, being placed in a perpendicular and horizontal shape, and is technically termed "a label." The arch lost its strongly pointed shape and height and became more drooping and "flat."

* The New Chapel at Speenhamland is a very chaste and elegant specimen of the early or lancet Gothic.

This straight or square 'label' is observable over only the northern, western, and southern door-ways of Newbury church; in the two latter, the spandrils are embellished with the Tudor rose. These door-ways are correct and good specimens of the Tudor arch.

We are lost in astonishment when we contemplate the manner in which our ancestors were able to accomplish the beautiful church structures of antiquity, requiring the greatest skill and labour, and an enormous expense and difficulty in obtaining materials for such stupendous and highly finished works. Some writers, and particularly sir Christopher Wren, have asserted that these buildings were, in this country and on the continent, the work of various companies of freemasons, who traversed Europe under the sanction and protection of papal bulls, by which they enjoyed a certain monopoly of church building. Having entered into engagements with sovereigns or wealthy religious bodies for building churches and other ecclesiastical structures, they fixed their residence in huts, near the site of the proposed work. The nobles and gentry were induced, under the influence of the clergy, to supply materials, and aid both in money and carriage, while all the nicer and more complicated portions of the building, were finished by, or under the immediate superintendence of the freemasons themselves. They are said to have enveloped themselves in mystery, in order to conceal the more intricate parts of their art, particularly the cutting of the arch stones.

At all events there seems to be strong reason for believing that the freemasons, under whatever regulations they may have been established or countenanced, were the architects of some of our most admired Gothic piles.

The following attempt at a description of Newbury church may tend, by a comparison of the style of its architecture with the foregoing observations, to confirm our notion that it is of greater antiquity than the date generally assigned, and by directing the attention of experienced antiquaries to the subject, may assist them in coming to more positive and satisfactory conclusions.

The length of the church, including the chancel, is about 140 feet, its breadth about 74. The body is divided into a

nave with an aisle on each side. There are, or rather were *five* windows in the northern aisle, after the fashion, as we conceive, of the fourteenth century, ornamented at the top with mullions and tracery: in the opposite aisle there were *six* windows, the mullions and tracery of which are different from those in the northern aisle. The moulding around the exterior of both aisles is also diversified, the southern being more delicately and tastefully embellished with flowers of four petals, and in one place the portcullis is introduced. Both aisles have at the west end a large pointed arched window, each somewhat differing from the other, both as to size and tracery. Over the one will be observed a small shield with a figure in the centre resembling a hammer or a small cross; over the other, in the corresponding spot, is a small grotesque lion. The windows, five on each side in the nave of the church, are in a more simple fashion, the arched stems or shafts being only slightly, but elegantly foliated. The magnificent and beautiful window in the tower, at the western end, has been, to the regret of all admirers of fine specimens of architecture, blocked up, and nearly concealed by a gallery and organ loft. The aisles are separated from the nave by five bold Gothic arches on each side, springing from large and handsome clustered columns of stone. The chancel is about 36 feet square, lighted by two windows on each side. The altar stands under a canopy or frame work of fine carved oak, supported by two pillars on each side, after the Corinthian order. In the centre is beautifully sculptured in stone the representation of an open bible, the leafing of which is executed with great spirit and freedom. The entrance to the chancel is under a lofty and noble pointed arch, the effect of which, as observed from the western end, is striking and imposing. Here we must again take the liberty of noticing another detraction from the light and beauty of the church within, in consequence of the eastern window, which is equally spacious and handsome with the western, having been entirely intercepted from the interior by the altar piece. We are inclined to consider the size and tracery work of these two windows to be strongly indicative of the style of architecture which distinguished the fourteenth century. We may indulge the hope that at some future day, by

a different arrangement, these two beautiful windows (we refer more especially to the western) may be restored to their pristine state, and thereby remove from the town the imputation of concealing and rendering nearly useless the two greatest ornaments of the church. About the year 1719, galleries on the north and south sides were erected, the expense of which was defrayed by a rate on the inhabitants.* These galleries being indispensable to the accommodation of the parishioners, the graceful proportions of the church must yield to that more important object.

On the north side of the chancel is the vestry, and on the south is a room which was, till lately, used as as a school for the blue and green coat charity boys.

The interior roof of the whole church is groined, and ornamented with flowers and well-executed emblematical devices, chiefly of the crucifixion. A square embattled tower, upwards of 70 feet high, terminates the western end, and is embellished and strengthened at each corner by four beautiful octagon turrets, which were also originally embattled. A small ancient bust is sculptured over the window, perhaps intended to represent the patron, St. Nicholas, or some pious prelate of the age. A modern and mistaken alteration has removed the embattlements of the turrets, the tops of which have been enclosed with small leaden domes. Injudicious attempts at ornament have likewise within these few years been made by placing on the side walls of the roofs several small and mean looking pinnacles or crockets, which interfere with the simplicity and chaste style of the building.

The approach from the street to the church is under two light and elegant Gothic arches.

The celebrated John Winchcombe, alias Smallwoode, familiarly known by the name of the Jack of Newbury, who flourished in the reigns of the two Henrys, VII. and VIII. has the reputation of having built at his own expense, the vestry, and of having otherwise liberally contributed to the improve-

* By order of a vestry, the 15th, Sept. 1719.
Edward Lovelock, *Mayor.*
Phi. Morgan, *Min.*
S. Slocock, W. Russell } *Churchwardens.*

ment and embellishment of the church. In his will, dated January, 1519, (the year in which he died,) and registered in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, he describes himself as "John Smallwoode, the elder, als John Wynchcombe, of the pisshe of Seynt Nicholas, in Newb'ery." By this document he gives "to the said pisshe church of Newbery, towards the buylding and edifying of the same, 40£." He also bequeaths donations to the "High Aulter," "Jhus Awter," "to our Lady Awter," and "to Saynt Thomas Aulter," and to every "aulter besides in the said pisshe churche." It has been and may probably still be inferred by some, from the above donation of £40 towards the "buylding and edifying" of the church, that its first erection was, at that time, in progress. But we submit that such was not the case. From the number of altars which appear then to have been in the church, we think we may conclude that it was, at this period, and had been for a long time previously, a consecrated church, and used as such by the inhabitants. The impression that it was not at that period a new and unfinished building, is further confirmed by Winchcombe directing in his will, that he should be buried "in our Lady chauncell win the pisshe churche of Newbury aforsaide by Alice my wif and a stone to be leyde upon us boothe." This wife had been some time deceased, as he had again married and left a widow named Joan, who is mentioned and liberally provided for in his will.* It is also deserving of observation, that Winchcombe, throughout his will, treats and speaks of the church as an existing parish church. We think it likely,

* The following extract from the will, may prove interesting, shewing the customs and usages of the day. After several bequests of legacies to individuals named, and to every of his women servants, and to every of his men servants in his house, and to William Delman, £10, it is added, "Also I bequeithe to Sir John Waite, psōn of Newbury, for the recompens of my tithes negligently forgotten, xls; Also I will that myn executor do keepe an obite for me and my friends to the swme of xs. and every yere to be distributed amongs preestis and clerks during the term of xxy years; Also I will that my executor do fynde an honest preest to syng for me and my frends by the space of one hole yere. The residue of all my goodys not gevyn and bequeathed, my funalles detts and legacies paide and fulfilled, I give and bequeathe hooly to John my son, whom I ordeyne and make my true lawful and sole executor of this my pūt testament and last will, to dispoase for the helthe of my soule as he shall think most expedient; Also I make and ordeyn Robt. Sheway ovrseer of this my present testament and last will, and I will that he have for his labor xxs. Witness, John Waite, psōn of the said church of Newbury. Robt. Wright, curat of the same, Robert Sheway, Roger Benet, John Tunnell, and Thomas Harrison, with many others." Proved by the son, John Smallwoode, 24th March, 1519.

therefore, that the donation of £40 refers to some repairs or improvements of the church which were then being undertaken, perhaps the building of the vestry and the door-ways and porches at the entrance to the tower and aisles. Having made this imperfect endeavour to describe the church, we think we are justified in coming to the conclusion, that the main building was prior to the age of the Tudors. There are, we imagine, at least three different styles or periods of building observable. The arches in the interior, and the principal windows, (more particularly the west and east,) are, we submit, too bold and pointed, and not sufficiently "flat" for the Tudor order, and indicate an earlier date. The windows of the northern and southern aisles, are, as we have already pointed out, apparently the work and in a style of two distinct periods. If we might hazard an opinion, we should say that the northern is the more ancient. It is also meriting observation, that not only do the number of windows vary in the two aisles and the ornamental parts of the architecture differ, but the southern aisle is higher than the northern. These are such variations as seem to be quite irreconcilable with the idea that the church was built at one period and under one original design. We think they are sufficient to prove that the present church is the result of different designs and of different styles of architecture, according to the various periods in which from time to time it was built. The porches and door-ways of the aisles and that under the tower, are undoubtedly in the Tudor style, and the work of that age. From a view of all the circumstances, we incline to the opinion that the church, or a considerable part of it, was in existence before the time of Henry VII. and that in his reign and that of his son, it was repaired, embellished, and enlarged, and that Winchcombe liberally contributed thereto. We incline to think that the tower, particularly from the formation of the principal window, was, notwithstanding the Tudor door-way, prior to that era. The Tudor parts will be found to be compatible with the conjecture that they are subsequent additions, they are not of sufficient importance to stamp the date of the erection from that epoch, particularly in opposition to the numerous features

which express a style and character of an earlier period. It cannot escape notice, that the north and south porches are each placed against, and almost entirely intercept, the window which had *previously* been there. This obviously evinces that these porches and door-ways were no part of the original design. We would also notice, that one of the monuments mentioned in Ashmole, that of Richard Aubrye, is dated 1469. A circumstance corroborating our impression. Having submitted these few observations, we shall leave the question for the investigation and decision of those, who by their taste and knowledge are far more competent than ourselves to form and give an opinion on antiquarian architecture.

John Winchcombe, as we have stated, was buried in the church. A brass effigy to him and his wife, under the name of John Smalwode alias Wynchcom and Alys his wife, is fixed against the east wall of the north aisle, near the vestry, with the following inscription·

Of ye charitie pray for the soule of John Smalwode als Wynchcom & Alys hys Wyfe. John dyed the 7b day of February A° dm M°CCCCC°XIX.

This brass effigy, it is said, was formerly placed over their tomb.

Against the exterior southern wall of the chancel, is an ancient stone monument, erected upon three Ionic columns, in one compartment, is the statue, in stone, of a man in armour kneeling, in the other are the figures of three females, said to be those of his wives; and of six sons and five daughters, carved in stone, in the costume of the day. On the ledge of the monument under the man was engraved

"Hic Jacet Griffinvs Cvrteyes Armiger, Nov. xxx. MDLXXXVII."

In the chancel there are a few handsome monuments, we have selected the following as the most interesting:—

JOHN GEREE, L.L.B.
Fellow of Winchester Coll.
died Jan. 7, MDCCLXXIV, aged
XXXIII. Years;
In Life exemplary
In Death lamented.

On a white marble tablet.

To perpetuate the Memory of
RICHARD COWSLADE, Gent.
A dutiful Son of the Reform'd Church of England:
A beneficent Son of this Parochial Church, wherein
His Body lies now interr'd
And once a worthy Member of this Corporation.
His Benefactions Were
An Organ for the more decent and Solemn Performance of
Divine Public Worship:
The Gallery in which it is placed:
A Stipend of thirty Pounds a Year for a skilful Organist
An Income of Five Pounds a Year to repair the Organ
Another sum of Five Pounds a Year to support the Dignity of the
Chief Magistrate of the Borough:
And a perpetual Revenue of Twenty Six Pounds a Year
For the Cloathing Ten poor Children
And Instructing them in the principles of the Christian Religion
as contain'd in the Church Catechism, and in the Arts of
Writing and Arithmetick
In order to make them useful in their generation.
These Instances of his Zeal for God's Glory
and the Good of Mankind
Were settl'd by him in his life-time, on the 13th of
May and on the 27th of June, 1715.
He depart'd this life on the 21st of January, 1718, in the 77th Year of his Age.

This Monument was Erected by his Trustees,
In testimony of their Respect to him,
And an encouragement to Others
to be Imitators of his Pious Example.

Pax Boni Viri Manibus.

Thomas Stockwell,
Edward Stuart,
Joseph Head,
Oliver Slocock,
John Beale,
William Townsend.
} Trustees.

On a gravestone.

Here lyeth the Body of John Edmvnds late Alderman, and twice Maior of this Towne of Newberry, who married Elizabeth, the Davghter of Edward Goddard, of Eastwood-hay, in the Covnty of Sovthton, Esq. He dyed the 20th day of October, 1654, in the 59th yeare of his Age; for whose pious memory his loveing wife caused this Memoriall.

M

On a white marble tablet.

Heic juxta
Sacrum Somnum dormit
THOMAS PENROSE, A.M.
(Inter Cornubienses suos
Ingenuâ stirpe oriundus)
Hujus Parœciæ, per Annos fere XXIV
Pastor indefessus.
Is certe erat
Ingenio, tam acri & exculto,
Ut summos, in ecclesiâ, Honores
merito ambisset.
Eâ vero modestiâ
Ut *Minimis* contentus viveret,
Maximis haud impar.
In Concionando,
Ore tam suavi ac mellito,
Ut, facile, audientium Animos
Ad Se
Pertraheret, etiam invitos,
Interea
Usque adeo temperate se gessit,
Ut per diem, emori videretur.
Ab omni vero ostentus Invidia
Tam longe remotus,
Ut sanctissimam Vitæ Disciplinam
Vicissim commendaret
Animus hilaris et facetus.
Diem obiit suum
Ap XX. MDCCLXIX.
Annos Natus
LIII.
Abi quisquis es
Quem Loci Studium huc forsan adduxerit
Et *Mori* ne dicas Bonos.

On a diamond-shape white marble gravestone.

M. S.
ALICIÆ, FILIÆ,
GULI : & ALI : SHERWIN
E CIVIT : OXON :
VERGO FUIT PIA,
PULCHRA, MODESTA;
AT NEC PIETAS EXIMIA, NEC FORMA, NEC MODESTIA
MORAM AFFERRET INDOMITÆ MORTI.
SED FLORENS ÆTATE, ET PLENIS NUBILIS ANNIS
HIC PROCUL A PATRIA TORRENTES FEBRIBUS ARTUS
DEPOSUIT, SPASMO NERVOS TORQUENTE CEREBRI
NE TOTAM TAMEN INTERIRE CREDAS
LECTOR, ADHUC MELIORE PARTE
VIVIT, & CÆLO ÆTHEREO REVISIT
PARTICULA AURÆ.
MAII 12 { A.°D.MI 1698.° / ÆTAT. 20.

On a white marble tablet.

H. S. E.

IOHANNES HINTON, A.M.
Ecclesiæ { Anglicanæ Presbyter, Sarisburiensis Prebendarius, Newberiensis & Shawensis } Rector.
Qui in Ædex^d^ apud Oxonienses
Ea Hausit Doctrinæ & Religionis Semina,
Quæ per hanc præcipuè loca
Uberrimè & felicissimè Sparsit
Fuit enim
Fidei & Doctrinæ Catholicæ apprimè tenax
In eâdem propaganda diligens & Indefessus
In Pastorali suo Officio ita Fideliter se gessit
Ut omnibus, quoad potuit, prodesset,
Ita prudenter, ut displiceret Nemini.
Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ Legibus firmiter devotus
Ab Iis interea qui alia, infeliciter, insistebant via,
Non Improbatus, non Illaudatus
Parochiali huic Curæ 40 & ultra annos
Sedulò & constanter invigilavit,
Ubi laboribus potius, quam senio confectus
Pie occubuit Anno { Domini 1720, Ætatis suæ 77 }
Felix ille Servus quem Dominus ita facientem inveniet.

In eodem tumulo condantur Ossa
IOHANNÆ Uxoris ejus
Amatæ æquè atq. amantissimæ;
EDVARDI & ANNÆ MARTIN
De Witney in Comitatu Oxon
Filiæ Unicæ
Quæ obiit Anno { Domini 1712, Ætatis suæ 62 }

On a gravestone.

Here ly's the Body of
JOHN GYLES,
late of this place, gentleman,
Who departed this Life
the 29th of October, A. D. 1721.
By his last Wile and testament he gave
£300 to the Church Alms House
Of this Place, and the Interest of £100
To be given half yearly forever in bread
To such Poor of this Parish as shale not
receive Collection from the same.

On a white marble tablet.

Near this Place
are deposited the remains of
JOHN KIMBER,
Senior Alderman of this Borough,
Who died the 27th of March, 1793,
In the 85th year of his age
And who by his Will bequeathed to Trustees
Almost the whole of his personal Estate,
For the Erection and Endowment of
ALMS HOUSES,
For Six Men and Six Women,
Inhabitants and Parishioners of this Town:
Allowing weekly to each five Shillings,
And annually Cloaths and Fuel:
ALSO
For cloathing and educating annually
Ten poor Boys of this Town,
and apprenticing them:
LIKEWISE
For increasing the weekly Allowance
of twenty eight other Alms persons of this Town,
And For OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES,
for the Benefit of the poor of this Parish.

On a brass plate, fixed in a gravestone.

A MEMORIALL OF MY FATHER MR. HVGH SHEPLEY, SOMETYMES RECTOR AND PARSON OF THIS CHVRCH AND TOWNE OF NEWBVRYE, WHO WAS BORNE AT PRESCOTT IN LANCASHIRE, 1526, AND BVRIED HEERE THE THIRD OF MAYE, 1596, AGED 70 YEARES.

On another brass plate, fixed in the same stone.

Full Eight and Twentie Yeeres he was your Pastor,
As hee was taught to feede by Christ his Maister;
By Preaching God's Word, Good Life, Good Example,
(Food for your Soules, fitt for God's house or temple)
Hee loved Peace, abandoned all strife,
Was kinde to Strangers, Neighbours, Children, Wife;
A lambe like man, born on an Easter Daye,
So liv'd, so di'de, so liv's againe for aye:
As one Spring brought him to this world of sinne,
Another Spring the Heavens receiv'd him in.

JOHN SHEPLEY, CITIZEN AND BRODERER OF LONDON.

AMORE, VERITATE, ET REVERENTIA.

On a brass plate, fixed in a gravestone.

HERE LYES THE BODY OF GEORGE WIDLEY, MR. OF ART & MINISTER OF GOD'S WORD, HEE DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE 23TH OF SEPTEMBER, 1641, AGED 75 YEARES.

On a gravestone.

Here lyeth the Body of
KATHERINE, wife of RICHARD COOPER of
GREENHAM in the Parish of THATCHAM, Esq.
daughter of the Rever. Dr. THOMAS PARGITER,
Rector of GREETWORTH in NORTHAMP. SHIRE,
Who departed this life in the 38th Year of
Her Age, Oct. the 10th, Anno Dni. 1716.

On the same stone.

Here lyes the Body of the Abovesaid
RICHARD COOPER, Esq.
Who was RECORDER of this Town near 20
YEARS, and departed this life the 27th of April 1741
In the 63 YEAR of his Age.

Non Potest male mori qui bene vixit.

On a brass plate, fixed in a gravestone.

HERE LIES THE BODIE OF FRANCIS TRENCHARD, OF NORMANTON IN THE COVNTY OF WILTES, ESQVIRE, WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE SIXT OF NOVEMBER, 1635, LEAVING ISSVE, ELIZABETH HIS ONLY CHILD.

On a diamond-shape white marble gravestone.

It is
Earnestly
Desired
That the Remains
Of the
Pious Persons
Interred
Under this Stone
May not
Be
Disturbed
1768.

This inscription refers to a part of the family of the rev. — Davies, who was the rector of Highclere, and also of this parish, immediately preceding the rev. J. Roe. Mr. Davies caused the stone to be placed there.



[redacted]



[redacted]







THE LITTEN.

Prior to the alteration in 1828.





THE LITTEN,

Prior to its alteration in 1826.





about the year 1624, and was educated at Trinity college, Cambridge, with the celebrated Dr. Isaac Barrow,) was chosen, on his leaving the university, master of the Free school at Newbury, where he continued several years, Thence he went to Tidworth, from which place, owing to his nonconformity, he was ejected in 1665.

On the death, in 1814, of the rev. Thomas Best, the last clergyman who held this chapelry and the school, the corporation appointed the rev. James Roe, the present venerable rector of Newbury, to perform the service of the chapel. The school has gradually sunk into neglect and disuse, and is now totally discontinued. The rev. T. Best, who had held the situation for nearly if not quite fifty years, succeeded a Mr. Morgan, who also had retained the appointment for a great many preceding years. A tradition is handed down, that John Winchcombe was married in this chapel.

Mr. Morgan, it is also said, on one occasion, celebrated a marriage there. But no register or account is extant of any marriages or burials having been performed in this chapel. Since that time, no religious duty or service has been solemnized within its walls, except that prayers, twice a week, are read to the alms people. The triangular piece of ground attached to the chapel and dwelling house is called the "Litten," which is supposed to be derived, as our readers are aware, from a Saxon word, signifying a burying ground, or an enclosure for the dead. A few years back, some workmen employed in making alterations, and in digging the foundation for the wall which now encloses the ground, discovered the remains of several human skeletons, clearly shewing, that at some remote period it had been used as a cemetery.

Sandleford Priory, the seat of lord Rokeby, is considered extra parochial, and claims to be a parish distinct from Newbury, yet the church of the latter place is the parish church for the inhabitants of Sandleford, and the rector of Newbury has the cure of souls there. Lysons says, that Geoffrey, earl

gentleman's table, one, then present, who had lived in bishop Hinchman's family, told him "That if he was a *conformist* he must expect no great preferment; for he once heard bishop Hinchman recommend a person to archbishop Sheldon, as one very fit for some ecclesiastical promotion, of whom the archbishop said, 'I believe your lordship is mistaken in the man, I doubt he is too puritannical,' whereto the bishop replied 'I assure your grace he is not, for he will drink a glass of wine freely."



of Perch and Maud his wife, about the year 1200, founded a Priory at Sandleford for Austin Canons, dedicated to St. John the Baptist. It is added, that a dispute having arisen in the reign of Edward IV. between the prior and the bishop of Salisbury, the king, at the instance of the bishop, gave it to the dean and chapter of Windsor, to whom it now belongs, and lord Rokeby is the lessee under that body.

In the registry of the bishop of Sarum, we find "A true note and terrior of all the glebe lands, meadows, gardens, orchards, houses, stocks, implements, tenements, tithes, portions of tithes, and other profits belonging to the parsonage of Newbury, in the county of Berks, made and exhibited the 20th day of Oct: Anno Domi. 1671." In this terrier is the following clause:

"Item, payed out of Sandleford farm, by virtue of a decree obtained by sir Francis More, in his majesty's court of Exchequer in the reign of king James, (whereby the said Sandleford is declared to be no part of the parish of Newbury, nor so to be reputed, though the said Sandleford had ordinarily paid tithes and other ecclesiastical dues to the parson of Newbury,) eight pounds per annum. Which eight pounds the parson of Newbury now enjoys, being deprived by the said decree of all other profits arising out of the said Sandleford." After this decree, the chapel of Sandleford appears to have been disused. It has since been destroyed, and the site forms part of a suite of rooms of lord Rokeby's mansion. Ashmole gives the following description of a monument of a Crusader, which was in this chapel, probably that of the founder, earl Perch. "Upon the first ascent of steps towards the High Altar, lyes a free-stone tomb of a Knight in Male, cross-legged, with a deep shield on his left arm, and seeming to draw his sword, his feet resting on a dragon. Written on the north wall of the chapel, but more antiently on the west wall, is this inscription:

"Lancea, crux, clavi,
Spine, Mors quam tolleravi.
Demonstrant qua vi
Miseroram criminа lavi
In cruce sum pro te, qui peccas
Desine pro me desine, do veniam,
Dic culpam, corrige vitam."

Newbury, at an early period, was remarkable for cherishing the doctrines of the reformation. We are told by Fuller, that

there was, in the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII. a society of "faithful favourers," who had continued together for the space of fifteen years, when they were betrayed, and many of them to the number of "six or seven score" were abjured and three or four of them were burnt. He also states, that the county of Berks was distinguished by the merit and boldness of entertaining the reformed religion, at as early a period as any place in England, and that the town of Newbury, in that respect, stood pre-eminent in the county. Fuller adds, "on which account let other places give the honor to the town of Newbery, because it started first in the race of the reformed religion."

In our attempt to collect memorials relative to the town, we feel great gratification in adducing this circumstance, testifying, as it does, so much to the credit of the research and independence of mind of the then inhabitants. But Newbury, while silently and steadily cultivating the seeds of the reformation, did not escape being the scene of some of those revolting persecutions and martyrdoms which indelibly disgrace the age in which they were inflicted. In the year 1518, the early part of the reign of Henry VIII. a Christopher Shoemaker,* of Missenden, was accused of reading part of the Gospel to a disciple named John Say, and of teaching him that the substance of bread remained after consecration, and of declaiming against the efficacy of pilgrimages and of the worship of Saints. For these heresies against the Roman catholic religion, Shoemaker was condemned and burned at Newbury. But the most interesting trial and persecution for religious opinions, is that of Julinus or Julins Palmer, as related in Fox's Book of Martyrs, whose trial lasted three days, and was conducted in Newbury church. The proceedings on this occasion, afford us a striking illustration of the manners and opinions of the age. Palmer was a native of Coventry, and was a fellow of Magdalen college, Oxford, in the reign of Edward VI. where he enjoyed the reputation of being an excellent scholar, and an amiable and exemplary moral character. It appears that at this period he was a zealous catholic, and that he was expelled his college for ridiculing the reformed religion as then

* Martyrologie by Samuel Clarke, Pastor of Bennet Fink, London, 1652.



established. He became tutor in the family of sir Francis Knolles, where he continued until the accession of queen Mary. Shortly after which event, he was restored to his college by the visitors of the queen, who were anxious for the reinstatement of the catholics. It was not long, ere the light of the reformation burst on Palmer's mind. He had personally witnessed the burnings of bishops Ridley and Latimer, at Oxford. The dying declarations and sufferings of those distinguished martyrs, producing a powerful effect on his mind, he earnestly commenced an investigation of the respective merits and pretensions of the reformed and catholic faiths. The result was, that he became from conviction, as zealous a protestant as he had hitherto been a catholic. Being suspected of heresy by bishop Cole, the president of his college, and by others of his friends, Palmer deemed it prudent voluntarily to yield up his fellowship and to leave the college. He was afterwards appointed master of the Grammar school at Reading. Here, some papers and books having been discovered in his study, which were considered evidence of heretical opinions, he was obliged, for the safety of his life, to leave Reading in haste, and resort to Ensham, where his mother lived. The following account of the interview between Palmer and his mother gives so strong a picture of the relentless bigotry and religious animosity of the times, that we shall give it, nearly in the words of our author. "His mother, understanding his state and errand by Maister Skipper and his brother, (whom he had sent before to entreat for him,) as soon as she beheld him on his knees asking her blessing, as he had been accustomed to do, thou shalt, said she, have Christ's curse and mine wheresoever thou go. He, pausing a little as one amazed at so heavy a greeting, at length said, O mother, your own curse you may give me, which God knoweth I never deserved, but God's curse ye can never give me, for he hath already blessed me. Nay, saith she, thou wentest from God's blessing when thou was banished for an heretic out of that worshipful house in Oxford, and now for the like knaverie, art driven out of Reading too. Palmer explained that he was not banished, but had resigned. The mother replied, I am sure thou dost not believe as thy father and I, and

all our forefathers have done, but, as were taught by the new law in king Edward's days, which is damnable heresy. Indeed I confess, said he, that I believe that doctrine which was taught in king Edward's time, which is not heresy but truth, neither is it new, but as old as Christ and his apostles. If thou be at that point, saith she, I require thee to depart from my house and out of my sight, and never take me more for thy mother hereafter. As for money and goods, I have none of thine, thy father bequeathed naught for heretics. Faggots I have to burn thee, more thou gettest not at my hands. Mother, saith he, whereas thou hast cursed me, I again pray God to bless you and prosper you all your life long, and with like soft talk, sweet words, and abundance of tears trickling down his cheeks, he departed from her, wherewith he so mollified her hard heart, that she hurled an old angel (a piece of coin,) after him, and said, take it to keep thee a true man."

Shortly afterwards, he again returned to Magdalen college. By the interference of some friends, and particularly of one Alane Cope, a fellow of that college; he obtained letters commendatory from the president Cole, for his appointment to a school in Gloucestershire. On his journey to this place he felt a strong inclination to return to Reading, in the hope of obtaining the stipend which was due to him and the little property which he had left there. Being arrived at Reading, he was shortly after, seized at night and dragged from his bed and imprisoned. Having been brought before the mayor of that town on charges of "treason, sedition, surmised murder, and adultery," these charges Palmer completely refuted. The magistrate being convinced of his innocence, was desirous that he should be permitted to leave the country privately. His enemies then accused him of heresy on the evidence of those writings which they had found in his study. He was again brought from prison "before the mayor, and Bird the official and two other justices, to render an account of his faith." In the course of this examination it was thought that sufficient was elicited to bring him to trial, and a "bill of instructions" against him was directed to Dr. Jeffery, who had determined to hold his visitation the next Tuesday, July the 16th, at Newbury.



know is but small, yet this promise, I am certain, pertaineth to all such as are appointed to defend God's truth against his enemies, in the time of their persecution for the same.

Jeffery.—Then it pertaineth not to thee.

Palmer.—Yes, I am right well assured that through his grace it pertaineth at this present to me, as it shall (I doubt not) appear, if you give me leave to dispute with you before this audience, in the defence of all that I have there written.

Jeffery.—Thou art but a beardless boy, start up yesterday out of the schools, and darest thou presume to offer disputation, or encounter with a doctor?

Palmer.—Remember, doctor, Spiritus ubi vult spirat. And again, Ex ore infantium, &c.; and in another place, Abscondisti hæc a sapientibus, &c. The spirit breatheth where it pleaseth him, &c. Out of the mouth of Infants, &c. And thou hast hidden these things from the wise, &c. God is not tied to time, wit, learning, place, nor person. And altho' your wit and learning be greater than mine, yet your belief in the truth and zeal to defend the same, is no greater than mine.

Registrar.—Sir, if you suffer him thus impudently to trifle with you, he will never have done.

Jeffery.—Well, ye shall understand that I have it not in commission at this present to dispute with you, neither were it meet that we should call again into question such articles as are discussed, and perfectly defined by our mother the holy church, whom we ought to believe whithout why or wherefore, as the creed telleth us. But the cause why ye be now called hither, is, that ye might be examined upon such articles as are ministered against you, and such matter as is here contained in your hand writing, that it may be seen whether ye will stand to it or nay. How say you to this?

Palmer.—By your holy church, you mean the synagogue of Rome, which is not universal, but a particular church of shavelings.* The catholic church, I believe, yet not for her own sake, but because she is holy, that is to say, a church that groundeth her belief upon the word of her spouse, Christ.

Jeffery.—Leave railing, and answer me directly to my question, will ye stand to your writing or will ye not?

* Shavelings, having reference to the catholic priest, as shorn.

Palmer.—If ye prove any sentence therein comprised, not to stand with God's word, I will presently recant it.

Jeffery.—Thou impudent fellow, have I not told thee, that I came not to dispute with thee, but to examine thee. Here

The Parson of Englefield pointing to the *pir* (pier or pillar,) said, What seest thou yonder?

Palmer.—A canopy of silk, bordered with gold.

Parson.—Yea, but what is within it?

Palmer.—A piece of bread, in a clout, I trow.

Parson.—Thou art as forward a heretic as ever I talked withal.

Here was much spoken of Confiteor, and other parts of the mass.

Parson.—Do you not believe, that they which receive the holy sacrament of the altar, do truly eat Christ's natural body?

Palmer.—If the sacrament of the Lord's supper be ministered as Christ did ordain it, the faithful receivers do indeed spiritually and truly eat and drink in it Christ's very natural body and blood.

Parson.—The faithful receivers. Ye cannot blear our eyes with such sophistry. Do not all manner of receivers, good and bad, faithful and unfaithful, receive the very natural body in form of bread?

Palmer.—No, sir.

Parson.—How prove you that?

Palmer.—By this place: Qui manducat me vivet propter me. He that eateth me shall live for me.

Parson.—See that fond fellow, whiles he taketh himself to be a doctor of the law, you shall see me prove him a stark foolish daw. Do you not read likewise, Quicunque invocaverit nomen Domini salvus erit? Whosoever invoketh the name of the Lord shall be saved? Ergo, do none but the godly call upon him? Therefore, you must mark how St. Paul answereth you. He saith that the wicked eat the true body to their condemnation.

As Palmer was bent to answer him at the full, the Parson interrupted him, crying still, What sayest thou to St. Paul?

Palmer.—I say that St. Paul hath no such words.

Parson.—See, the impudent fellow denyeth the plain text.



Qui edit et bibit corpus Domini indigne, reus erit judicii. He that eateth and drinketh the body of the Lord unworthily, is guilty of judgment.

Palmer.—I beseech you lend me your book.

Parson.—Not so.

Sheriffe.—I pray you lend him your book. So the book was given over to him.

Palmer.—Your own book hath, Qui manducat hunc panem, &c. He that eateth this bread, &c.

Parson.—But St. Jerome's translation hath corpus.

Palmer.—Not so, Mr. Parson, and God be praised that I have in the mean season, shut up your lips with your own book.

Jeffery.—It skilleth no matter whether ye write bread or body, for we be able to prove that he meant the body, and whereas you say they eat it spiritually, that is but a blind shift of descant.

Palmer.—What should I say else?

Jeffery.—As holy church saith, really, carnally, substantially.

Palmer.—And with as good scripture, I may say grossly or monstrously.

Jeffery.—Thou speakest wickedly, but tell me, is Christ present in the sacrament or no?

Palmer.—He is present.

Jeffery.—How is he present?

Palmer.—The doctors say, modo ineffabile, therefore, why do you ask me? Would God ye had a mind ready to believe it, or I a tongue able to express it unto you.

Jeffery.—What say you to the baptism of infants?

Palmer.—I say that it standeth with God's word, and therefore it ought of necessity to be retained in the church.

Jeffery.—Ye have forgotten yourself, I wis, for ye write that children may be saved without it.

Palmer.—So I write and so I say.

Jeffery.—Then it is not necessary to be frequented and continued in the church?

Palmer.—Your argument is not good, Mr. Doctor.

Jeffery.—Will ye stand to it?

Palmer.—Yea, Mr. Doctor, God willing.

Jeffery.—Note it, Registrar.

"More of his examination in that time and place, is not yet come to our hands; whensoever God sendeth it, I will impart and communicate the same to the reader. In the mean season, we are credibly informed of this, that sir Richard Abridges the same day, after dinner, sent for him to his lodgings, and there in the presence of divers persons yet alive in Newbury and elsewhere, friendly exhorted him to revoke his opinion, to spare his young years, wit, and learning. If thou wilt be conformable, and show thyself corrigible and repentant, in good faith, (saith he,) I promise thee, before this company, I will give thee meat and drink and books and ten pounds yearly, so long as thou shalt dwell with me, and if thou shalt set thy mind to marriage, I will procure thee a wife and a farm, and help to stuff and fret thy farm for thee. How sayest thou?

"Palmer thanked him very courteously and made him further answer concerning his religion somewhat at large, but very modestly and reverently, concluding in the end, that as he had already in two places renounced his living for Christ's sake, so he would with God's grace be ready to surrender and yield up his life also for the same, when God should send time. When sir Richard perceived that he would by no means relent, Well Palmer, (saith he,) then I perceive one of us twain shall be damned, for we be of two faiths, and certain I am that there is but one faith that leadeth to life and salvation.

Palmer.—Sir, I hope that we both shall be saved.

Sir Richard.—How may that be?

Palmer.—Right well sir, for as it hath pleased our merciful Saviour, according to the gospel parable, to call me at the third hour of the day, even in my flowers, at the age of 24 years, even so I trust he hath called, and will call you at the eleventh hour of this your old age, and give you everlasting life for your portion.

Sir Richard.—Sayest thou so? Well, Palmer, I would I might have thee but one month in my house; I doubt not but I would convert thee, or thou shouldst convert me. Then said

H. Winchcombe.—Take pity on thy golden years and pleasant flowers of lusty youth before it be too late.

Palmer.—Sir, I long for those springing flowers that shall never fade away.

Winchcombe.—If thou be at that point, I have done with thee.

"Then was Palmer commanded again to the blind-house, but the two other silly* men were led again, the same afternoon, to the consistory, and there were condemned and delivered to the secular power of the sheriffe, there present, by name sir Richard Abridges.

"It is reported also, that Dr. Jeffery offered Palmer a good living, if he would outwardly shew himself conformable, keeping his conscience secret to himself, or at least declare that he doubted which was the truest doctrine. But I cannot affirm it for a suretie."

Second Day's Trial.

The next morning, the 16th of July, Palmer was required to subscribe to certain articles, which they had drawn out touching the cause of his condemnation, in the front whereof were pluckt together many heinous terms, as horrible, heretical, damnable, devilish, and execrable doctrine. To these words Palmer refused to subscribe, affirming that the doctrine which he professed was not such, but good and sound doctrine.

Jeffery.—Ye may see good people what shifts these heretics seek to escape burning, when they see justice ministered unto them. But I tell thee this stile is agreeable to the law, and therefore I cannot alter it.

Palmer.—Then I cannot subscribe to it.

Jeffery.—Wilt thou then crave mercy, if thou like not justice, and revoke thy heresy!

Palmer.—I forsake the pope and his popelings with all popish heresy.

Jeffery.—Then subscribe to the articles.

Palmer.—Alter the epithetons, and I will subscribe.

Jeffery.—Subscribe and quality the matter with thine own pen. So he subscribed.

"Whereupon Doctor Jeffery proceeded to read the popish sentence of his cruel condemnation, and so was he delivered to the charge of the secular power, and was burned the same day, in the afternoon, about five of the clock.

"Within one hour before they went to the place of execution, Palmer, in the presence of many people, comforted his fellows

with these words: Brethren, (saith he,) be of good cheer in the Lord and faint not. Remember the words of our Saviour Christ, where he saith, 'Happy are you when men revile you and persecute you for righteousness' sake. Rejoice and be glad for great is your reward in heaven.' Fear not them that kill the body and be not able to touch the soul. God is faithful and will not suffer us to be tempted further than we shall be able to bear. We shall not end our lives in the fire, but make a change for a better life. Yea, for coals we shall receive pearles. For God's holy spirit certifieth our spirit, that he hath even now prepared for us a sweet supper in heaven for his sake which suffered first for us.

"With these and such like words, he did not only comfort the hearts of his silly brethren that were with him appointed as sheep to be slain, but also wrested out plentiful tears from the eyes of many that heard him. And as they were singing a psalm, came the sheriff sir Richard Abridges and the bailiffs of the town, with a great company of harnessed and weaponed men to conduct them to the fire.

"When they were come to the place where they should suffer, they fell all three to the ground, and Palmer, with an audible voice, pronounced the xxxi. Psalm: "In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust, let me never be ashamed, deliver me in thy righteousness, &c." But the other two made their prayers secretly to Almighty God.

"And as Palmer began to arise, there came behind him two popish priests, exhorting him yet to recant and save his soul. Palmer answered and said, Away, away, tempt me no longer; away, I say, from me all ye that work iniquity, for the Lord hath heard the voice of my tears; and so forthwith they put off their raiment and went to the stake and kissed it, and when they were bound to the post, Palmer said, Good people pray for us, that we may persevere to the end, and for Christ's sake beware of popish teachers, for they deceive you.

"As he spake this, a servant of one of the bailiffs threw a fagot at his face, that the blood gushed out in divers places. For the which fact the sheriff reviled him, calling him cruel, tormentor, and with his walking stick break his head that the blood likewise ran about his ears. When the fire was kindled

and began to take hold upon their bodies, they lift their hands towards heaven, and quietly and cheerfully, as though they felt no smart, they cried, Lord Jesu strengthen us, Lord Jesu assist us, Lord Jesu receive our souls. And so they continued without any struggling, holding up their hands and knocking their hearts, and calling upon Jesu until they had ended their mortal lives."

These victims of a cruel bigotry were, according to our author, burned at "the Sand Pits" in Newbury. Tradition represents those pits which are near the town on the Enbourn road, as the spot which was consecrated by the blood and ashes of these undaunted supporters of the protestant faith.

When the supremacy and infallibility of the pope were discarded by the cruel and despotic Henry, he did not wish that the *principles* of the Romish religion should at the same time be dismissed. His object was merely that of substitution, intending himself to assume the supremacy and infallibility which had, by the Christian world, been accorded to the bishop of Rome. Although the king had been instrumental in opening the eyes of his subjects, yet he flattered himself that he could again close them at his pleasure or caprice. In this expectation he was mistaken. Experience amply shows that no important change, however beneficial it may ultimately prove, takes place, either in the religious or political institutions of a country, without producing for a long time much dissatisfaction and discontent.

Old habits and prejudices, the jealousy of new men and new interests arising from these changes, are circumstances which have their various and contending influence on the tempers of men. Hence we find that many years must pass over, and another generation arise before these conflicting passions and interests subside, before these innovations are quietly and habitually acquiesced in, and the advantages fully appreciated and enjoyed. In order to anticipate the effect of time, resort is frequently had to legislation. This expedient, particularly in reference to religious matters, is, in general, found abortive, tending only to aggravate the evil by investing one party with an authority and a dictation over the minds and consciences of the other, a power which has been too often abused

and perverted to sinister purposes. By this means, persecution has been produced on one side, and hypocrisy on the other. It may be assumed as a moral axiom, that uniformity in religious opinions arises from only two causes, ignorance or indifference, the one knowing little and the other caring little. It is as practicable and as wise to attempt by legislation to limit the human stature to one uniform standard, as to reduce and fix religious opinions to one authorized and promulgated creed. But history abundantly evinces that such attempts have been made, and that they have proved inefficient. With this view, after the reformation, numerous acts of parliament were at different times passed in order to control and regulate the religious opinions and worship of the people; but the spirit of enquiry having been once set afloat, however mistaken, indeed wild, it may in some instances have been, it would have an uncurbed sway. The very transition from papal darkness and mystery to protestant investigation and to an unfettered perusal of the sacred writings, was calculated to produce an extreme in an opposite direction, to be sobered down only by time and reflection.

The frequent and capricious changes in the religious dogmas of Henry himself, however absurd and ridiculous they may appear to subsequent ages, had their beneficial tendency in exciting the curiosity and enquiry of his subjects, and inducing them to rely on the scriptures themselves, as the only sure guide amidst the fickle and inconsistent opinions which were constantly promulgated by the imperious and dogmatical king.

But of all the legislative enactments which have at various times been introduced, the celebrated Act of Uniformity, passed soon after the restoration of Charles II. and enforced on Bartholomew day, August 24th, 1662, was, perhaps, the most important, and followed by results which its framer by no means expected. By this bill it was required, we give the words of Hume, that "every clergyman should be ordained, if he had not before received episcopal ordination; should declare his assent to every thing contained in the book of Common Prayer; should take the oath of canonical obedience; should abjure the solemn league and covenant, and should renounce the principle of taking arms, on any pretence

whatsoever against the king." This historian also says, "a combination had been entered into by the most z of the presbyterian ecclesiastics to refuse the subscriptio hopes that the bishops would not venture at once to ex great a number of the most popular preachers." In consec of this act, upwards of 2000 ministers who could not cor tiously subscribe to the same, were ejected from their living preferments; and "to the astonishment of the court, sac their interests to their religious tenets." The great Locke describes this event, "Bartholomew day was fatal to our c and religion, in throwing out a very great number of w learned, pious, and orthodox divines."

This ejectment formed the ground work and foundation present protestant dissenters of England. The ejected mi established, in almost every considerable town, congregatic dissenters, who were attracted and bound together by the t popularity, and character of these ministers, and by a comm tion for the privations which they suffered.

We shall, as we go on, find that such was the case in bury, and we have been imperceptibly led into this disc by reason of the reference it will bear to our account of the r and incumbents of the church here, to which we shall immec proceed.

It has been seen by the will of John Wynchcombe, t that time, (1519,) sir John Wayte was the then par Newbury. He was, of course, a catholic, the reformatio having commenced until about the year 1536. For wh riod sir John Wayte continued the parson of Newbury we not.

The next rector of whom mention is made, is the rev Whyte, who, by an entry in the register, is shewn to have the incumbent in the year 1566. How long previously or quently to that time, does not appear. It is not unlikely, bu he might have been the successor of sir John Wayte,—at l is very probable that Whyte was the first protestant rector o parish.

The rev. Hugh Shepley was probably the successor o Whyte, for although he is not mentioned in the regist church books, yet from his monument which we have give

evident that he was "sometymes rector and parson of this church and towne of Newburye," and having died in 1596, he must have been the immediate predecessor of Coldwell.

The following curious entry shews that in 1597 Thomas Coldwell was the then rector:

"Memorandm that Thomas Milksoppe must mend and mayntayne the Chaunsell for Mr. Thomas Coldwell, Pśõne of Newberri, so longe as he dothe live, and allso his sonne, for two shillings by the yere, in regard whereof, Mr. Coldwell gave hime two angelle in earnest, in the p̄sens of us whose names are here written. In the 25th daie of March, the anno domi., 1597.

JOHN KIFTELL.
JOHN COOPER."

On the 19th of April, 1619, Nathaniel Gyles, M.A. was publicly "read in" as the rector. He continued the incumbent for only a very short time.

On the 15th of October, 1620, the celebrated Dr. William Twiss became the rector. He retained the rectory till 1645.

This divine lived in too eventful a period and was too conspicuous and eminent a character to be passed over without some account of his life. We think the best and most authentic is that given in Chalmer's Biographical Dictionary, which will be found of sufficient interest to justify our setting it forth at length.

"William Twiss, a very learned nonconformist* divine, was descended from German ancestors, of whom his grandfather is said to have been the first who settled in England. He was born about 1575. His father, who was a clothier at Newbury in Berkshire, perceiving this his son to be well qualified for a learned education, sent him to Winchester school, whence he was in 1596, elected probationer fellow of New College, Oxford, and two years after became actual fellow. According to Wood, he studied divinity for sixteen years together. In 1601 he proceeded in arts, and about that time taking orders, was a frequent and diligent preacher, 'noted to the academicians for his subtle wit, exact judgment, exemplary life and conversation, and for the endowment of such qualities that were befitting men of his

* This is not correct, he was not a nonconformist. In fact, that term was not applicable after the time of Twiss.

function.' He was not less esteemed as a logician and sopher, and his learning appeared not only in his public and disputations, but in the accuracy with which he correc works of the celebrated Bradwardine, published by sir Savile. Besides his catechistical lectures, which h every Thursday in term-time in the college chapel, he p every Sunday at St. Aldate's church; and at length h reaching the court, king James appointed him chap his daughter Elizabeth, afterwards the unfortunate qu Bohemia, who was then about to leave her native coun go to the Palatinate. On this he was admitted to his of D.D.

"His stay abroad, however, was not long. In about two he was called back to England, but on his arrival took leave of the court, and devoted himself to a learned retire Newbury, the place of his birth, of which he obtained the c Here such was his attachment to the quiet enjoyment studies, and the discharge of his parochial duties, that he some valuable preferments offered him entirely on the s merit; among these were the wardenship of Winchester a prebend of Winchester, and a valuable living. Th he had some thoughts of accepting, provided the pe Newbury could be furnished with a suitable successor. W view, he waited upon the archbishop of Canterbury, who i him very kindly, granted his request, and added, that he mention him to the king as a pious and learned divine, puritan. Twiss seemed to have been alarmed at this last ment, which he knew he did not deserve, and upon more consideration, remained at Newbury. About the same t refused a professor's chair at Oxford, and another at the un of Franeker.

* That he became the rector the 15th of October, 1620, is proved by the follo in the parish register. "In the yeare and day above written, William Twisse, divinitie, and rector of the parish church of Newberry, in the county of Berks publiquely in the same parish church att evening prayer, all the articles conteyn booke that is sett forth by authority, and did then and there publiquely give his them all.

WILLIAM KING
THOMAS BENNETT
RICHARD WALLER
SEM S FARRANT
and others."

"Upon the publication of the 'Book of Sports,' which did so much mischief to the royal cause, Dr. Twiss decidedly declared his opinion against it, and refused to read it, yet he was still such a favourite with king James that he forbade his being molested on this account. During the rebellion he suffered considerably by the violence of the soldiery; but when prince Rupert came to Newbury he entertained Dr. Twiss very courteously, wishing him to forsake the parliamentary cause, and write in defence of the king, which he refused. In 1640 he was chosen one of the sub-committee, to assist the committee of accommodation appointed by the house of lords to consider the innovations introduced into the church, and to promote a more pure reformation. In 1643 he was nominated, by an order of the parliament, prolocutor to the assembly of divines. This appointment he repeatedly declined, but having at length been prevailed upon to accept it, he preached (the assembly opening on July 1) before both houses of parliament, in Henry VII.'s chapel. 'In his sermon,' says Fuller, 'he exhorted his auditory to a faithful discharge of their duty, and to promote the glory of God, and the honour of his church, but he was sorry that they wanted the royal assent. He hoped, however, that in due time, it might be obtained, and that a happy union would be obtained between the king and parliament.' He appears to have been dissatisfied with the conduct of both of the great contending parties; 'whilst some would have nothing reformed, others would have all things changed and turned upside down.' These melancholy prospects gradually impaired his health, and sometime after, he sunk down in the pulpit while preaching, and being carried home, languished until July 20, 1646, when he expired, in the seventieth year of his age. During his illness the Parliament voted him £100 as he had lost all his property while at Newbury, and had in London only one of the lectureships of St. Andrew's, Holborn; and after his death £1000 to his family: but this, it is said, they never received.* Respecting his personal character, there seems no difference of opinion

* Dr Twiss was buried in Westminster abbey, but at the restoration, his remains, together with those of some others, were dug up and thrown into a pit in St. Margaret's churchyard. This, we presume, must have been in consequence of a general order by no means to be vindicated, as there was nothing in Dr. Twiss's conduct to render his memory particularly obnoxious."



among historians. Fuller denominates him 'a divine of great abilities, learning, piety, and moderation;' and Wood says, 'his plain preaching was esteemed good; his solid disputations were accounted better; but his pious life was reckoned best of all.' Nor less favourably does bishop Sanderson speak of him, even while differing greatly from some of his opinions. Mr. Clark says, that he 'had his infirmities, whereof the most visible was this: that he was of a facile nature, and too prone to be deceived by giving too much credit to those, whom, by information from others, or in his own opinion, he judged to be godly. Whence it came to pass that he was often imposed upon, especially by certain crafty heads, who solemnly professed that their chiefest care was the preservation of the purity of doctrine and reformation of discipline, whereas, in deed and truth, they sought the utter subversion of both.

"His writings are all controversial, and more or less direct against Arminianism, of which, it seems to be agreed, even by his adversaries, he was the ablest and most successful opponent of his time. The authors against whom he wrote were, principally, Dr. Thomas Jackson, Mr. Henry Mason, Dr. Thomas Godwin, Mr. John Godwin, Mr. John Cotton, Dr. Potter, Dr. Heylin, and Dr. Hammond. His works were, 1. 'Vindiciæ Gratiæ,' Augt. 1652 and 1648, folio, against Arminius. 2. 'A discovery of Dr. Jackson's Vanity,' etc 1641, 4to, printed abroad. 3. 'Dissertatio de scientia media tribus libris absoluta,' etc. Arnheim, 1639, fol. 4. 'Of the Morality of the Fourth Commandment,' London, 1641, 4to. 5. 'Treatise of Reprobation,' 1. d. 1646, 8vo, with some other works printed after his death. There are fifteen of his letters in Mr. Joseph Mede's Works, and he left many MSS. in the hands of his son, who Wood says, was a minister, but these are probably lost."

Twiss was succeeded in the rectory by the rev. Benjamin Woodbridge. We learn from Palmer's Noncontformist's Memorial, whence we have chiefly derived our account of this rector, that he was educated at Magdalen Hall, Oxford, and took the degree of Master of Arts. His father was a clergyman. His grandfather, on the mother's side, was

the "famous *Robert Parker*." On his leaving Oxford, Woodbridge went to New England, and was the first graduate of the college established there. Returning thence, he became the successor of Twiss, at Newbury, "where," we are informed, "he had a mighty reputation as a scholar, a preacher, a casuist, and a christian. By his excellent instruction and wise conduct he reduced the whole town to a sobriety of opinion in matters of religion and an unity in worship, whereas they had before been overrun with strange opinions and divided into many parties. He preached three times every week and expounded an hour every morning for several years, and his success was very remarkable. Before he left this town there was scarce a family in it where there was not praying, reading, and singing of psalms." On the restoration of Charles II. he was made one of his chaplains in ordinary, and on one occasion preached before the king.

Amongst the numerous expedients which were attempted in order to soften and reconcile the asperity of religious differences and controversies, was the conference held at the Savoy, in March, 1661. At this period, Hume observes, "that while catholics, independents, and other sectaries, were content with entertaining some prospect of toleration, prelacy and presbytery struggled for the superiority." In the hope of leading to an accommodation, the Savoy conference was held between twelve bishops and twelve distinguished presbyterian ministers, for the purpose of discussing, and, if possible, of adjusting the controverted religious forms and dogmas. These divines met only to separate more inflamed against each other, and more inveterate in their respective prejudices. In reference to these and similar controversies, it is well observed by the last mentioned historian, that "disputes concerning religious forms are in themselves the most frivolous of any; and merit attention only so far as they have influence on the peace and order of civil society." Woodbridge was selected to be one of the presbyterian ministers or commissioners at this conference. A canonry of Windsor was likewise offered him on condition that he would conform, but this he refused. Having by reason of his non-conformity been ejected from the rectory of Newbury, he continued privately to preach there, until the passing of the

Act of Indulgence in 1672, when he ventured more publicly to perform the duties of a minister.

From a work intitled "Remarkable passages of the Life of Oliver Sanson," who was a quaker, (printed in 1710) it appears that Woodbridge at this time excited the displeasure of that sect, by having in some of his discourses stigmatized them as "Infidels." Oliver Sanson, who was a member and teacher among the society of "friends," and a zealous advocate of their peculiar tenets and practice, had been imprisoned in Newbury on account of his religious opinions. On his liberation in 1673, he wrote two letters to Woodbridge, whom he styles "a preacher to the presbyterians there," in defence of the opinions, principles, and practice of the quakers, to which Woodbridge wrote an answer. This correspondence is not of further interest than as a corroboration of the extreme religious animosity which then prevailed.

Sanson contemptuously describes his opponent as having been a "priest of Newbery in the times of the protectors. On the restoration of Charles II. he was displaced, and thereupon lurking up and down, hid himself in holes and corners to avoid persecution, until the time that the king put forth his declaration for liberty of conscience, and then he crept out again, and coming to Newbury, preached openly, and had great meetings for some time in the market house, and afterwards in a barn."

On some of these occasions Woodbridge reprobated the quakers, and remonstrated with some of his hearers against their joining that society, terming them "Infidels." In his answer he attempts to justify the use of that term, and represents them as being but little, if any, more of Christians than "the Turks."

It is curious to observe, how strong a feeling of hatred and jealousy the nonconformist, notwithstanding he was then suffering from religious persecution, exhibited towards the quakers. It may not be very uncharitable to believe, that had he possessed the power, he would have inflicted on these "Infidels" the same persecution which he himself had experienced.—This observation applies not so much to Woodbridge individually as to the spirit of the age, of which all, more or less,

participated. Woodbridge died at Inglefield, in Berkshire, in November, 1684, after having exercised the ministerial office in public and in private, nearly forty years. He is represented as having been an accomplished person, of a clear reason, and sound judgment, and possessing considerable learning. He was much sought after as a preacher, having a commanding voice and manner, and esteemed as a man of great generosity and exemplary moderation.*

In a churchwardens' book of the year 1658, is the following entry, "Paid James Foster for 300 tokens for Mr. Woodbridge, 3s. 6d." This circumstance strongly indicates the high respect in which he was held by his parishioners, and justifies the observation made in reference to him, that "so eminent was his usefulness as to cast no small reflection on those who had a hand in silencing and confusing him." The rev. Henry Backaller was Woodbridge's curate or assistant, and was ejected at the same time.

The successor of Woodbridge in the rectory, was the rev. Joseph Sayer; the first appearance of his signature in the church books is in the year 1666, and he continued rector down to 1674. The only incident meriting notice of which we are aware in connection with Mr. Sayer's incumbency is, that after the passing of the Five Mile Act in the year 1665, which compelled the ejected ministers to reside at a distance not being within five miles of any corporation or of their former incumbency, Sayer thinking that Woodbridge had not removed within the prescribed limit, procured the ground to be secretly measured by night, but the result proved that the latter had not encroached beyond the permitted distance. We who happily live in a period when religious animosities have ceased, and under the enjoyment of perfect toleration, are perhaps, unable, with sufficient allowance, to judge of men's conduct when under the influence of such strong prejudices. We shall therefore make no comment on this transaction, but merely mention it as an evidence of the suspicion and jealousy which then almost universally prevailed.

Mr. Sayer was followed in the rectory by the rev. John

* John Woodbridge, brother of Benjamin, and also educated at Oxford, was for some time master of the school at Newbury, and ejected by the Act of Uniformity

impressed with the providential deliverance which his congregation and himself had experienced, fell on his knees [illegible] and fervently returned thanks for this merciful interposition of divine providence.

It is stated that the roof fell down no farther than to the pillar against which the pulpit* was at that time and until lately placed, but without in the least injuring the latter. Had therefore the minister continued in the pulpit during the occurrence of this event, he in all probability would have escaped without injury. "This, however," we are told, "did not in the least diminish the sense he had of, and the gratitude he ever retained for this mighty deliverance, which he never afterwards mentioned himself, or heard mentioned by others, without expressions of his hearty and unfeigned thanks to God for the same." Mr. Milles, it is said, was in the habit, previous to his morning duty, of smoking a pipe of tobacco, more particularly when he officiated at Newbury, where after a ride of four miles, he derived refreshment from this indulgence, and found that he was the better able to go through the duty and the labour of speaking, which was greater here than in his own smaller church. This was so well known to be his habit, that on this Sunday morning, on his arrival at the house of the minister of Newbury, he was pressed to enjoy his customary recreation, but, as he afterwards affirmed, he felt upon his mind at that time so lively a sense of the service of the holy eucharist which was to follow the sermon, that he broke in upon his former custom and refused to smoke. Upon the consideration of this circumstance, it is represented that Mr. Milles, with an appropriate sense of the divine interposition, used afterwards to offer up praise to God, who in that critical juncture and on so slight an incident did so work upon his mind as to restrain him from doing at that time what he was so much accustomed to do. For, as he used to say, "If God had not withheld him from smoking a pipe of tobacco that morning, how many hundreds of the people of Newbury must inevitably have lost their lives. It appears that Mr. Milles was an extemporc preacher, at last partly so; because it is added, that if any other clergyman had happened to preach on

* [illegible]

that day, who was in the habit of delivering a written sermon of a certain and defined length, the people might not have escaped this destruction. On the present occasion, Mr. Milles, who did not commit to writing the whole of his sermon, but gave himself the liberty of speaking a longer or a shorter time as he saw fit, had considerably curtailed the usual time of his discourse, on account of the sacrament which was to follow. It was also noticed, as a circumstance deserving remark, that the lessons of this day were shorter than upon most other Sundays in the year. At the request of the parishioners of Newbury, the anniversary of this deliverance was observed there, and Mr. Milles for several years afterwards preached on the same day, from the same text which he had used when the church fell, "to the great edification and satisfaction of the inhabitants."

We have taken the above interesting particulars from "An Account of the Life and Conversation of the Rev. and Worthy Mr. Isaac Milles, late Rector of Highcleer in Hampshire. Together with the Sermon that was preached in the Parish Church of Highcleer, at his interment, on Saturday the 9th day of July, 1720."* This account is attributed to his daughter, Mrs. Pocock, the wife of the rev. Richard Pocock.

On the death of Mr. Hinton, the rev. Joseph Acres was inducted to the rectory, which he held till 1746. We cannot furnish our readers with the slightest memoir or information relating to this clergyman. His signature occurs in the books of the churchwardens in 1726; from that period it is occasionally observable up to the year 1745, from which circumstance it may be inferred, that he was, during at least some part of his incumbency, resident in this parish. He died in poverty the 4th of January, 1748, and was buried at Hagbourn, in Berkshire. Two of his daughters were in such reduced circumstances as to be compelled to accept each an almshouse of those called king John's, where they soon died.

Mr. Acres was followed in the rectory by the rev. Thomas Penrose, who, for some time previously, had been his curate. Mr.

* Mr. Milles left three sons, Thomas, the eldest, who [illegible] Greek at Oxford, and was afterwards [illegible] Jeremiah, who was a fellow of Eliot's [illegible] in Cornwall, and Isaac, who was treasurer [illegible] prebendary of Moderation in the church of Lincoln.

Penrose was inducted the 29th of the same month of January. This gentleman was descended from the ancient Cornish family, Penrose, of Penrose, and was educated at Christ Church college, Oxford, where he proceeded M.A., October 13th, 1740. He was presented to the living of Newbury by the crown, at the solicitation of the parishioners, and on the recommendation of Dr. Sherlock, bishop of Salisbury. Mr. Penrose enjoyed the living till his death, on the 20th of April, 1769. During this period he was a constant resident in his parish, and was distinguished for the attention and assiduity with which he performed his parochial duties; he was much admired for his impressive eloquence in the pulpit, and beloved and respected for the unassuming simplicity of his manners. He was a man of studious habits and of considerable literary attainments. He left three children; a son, Thomas, of whom we shall speak more fully hereafter, and two daughters, the eldest of whom, Ann, married James Pettit Andrews, esq., of Donnington Grove, and was the mother of the late sir Joseph Andrews, bart.; the other, Sarah, married Samuel Enys, esq., of Enys in Cornwall. Another daughter, named Mary, died in her father's life, in the 19th year of her age. Her death is commemorated by her brother, in the following beautiful elegy.

"TO THE MEMORY OF MISS MARY PENROSE.

WHO DIED DECEMBER 18, 1764, IN THE NINETEENTH YEAR OF HER AGE.

"Heard ye the bell from yonder dusky tow'r?
Deep, deep, it tolls the summons of the dead,
And marks with sullen note the solemn hour,
That calls Maria to her earthy bed.

O! come, ye mournful virgin train, attend;
With [illegible] step the hal'ow'd place draw near;
View [illegible] your once loved, happy, blooming friend,
Now silent, slumbering on the sable bier.

Come ye, who join'd in friendship's sacred tie,
With her engaged in pleasure's guiltless scene,
Who shared with her the tender, social joy,
Wove the gay dance, or trod the flowery green.

Mark here, O! mark, how chang'd, how alter'd lies
The breast that once with youth's warm tide beat high!
Read your own fate in hers, in time be wise,
And from her bright example learn to die!

[illegible] pale corpse by watery wind,
[illegible] fate bloom'd the hour when she was mute.
[illegible]
[illegible]

Say, are your forms with youth's soft graces dress'd?
Say, are they tinged with beauty's brightest bloom?
So once was here—by you—by all confess'd,
Till death untimely swept her to the tomb.

Her eyes beam'd out—how innocent, how meek!
At whose rebuke vice shrunk abash'd and pale;
Like vernal roses blush'd her modest cheek,
Like them as lovely, and like them as frail.

How was she skill'd the softest breasts to move!
Of hardest hearts the passions rough to bend!
How was she skill'd to win the general love!
How form'd to bless the husband or the friend!

With meek-soul'd charity, with pitying hands,
To mis'ry oft her little store she gave;
Now she herself our flowing tears demands,
And bids our pious drops bedew her grave.

There on her dusty couch in firm repose,
Deaf to our call the clay cold slumberer lies;
Her beauty faded like the blasted rose,
Mute her sweet tongue, and closed her radiant eyes.

Full many an hour of agonizing pain
She, patient sufferer, bore her lot severe;
Well did the anguish of her soul restrain,
Nor drop one female, one repining tear.

Midst life's last pangs Religion lent her aid,
And wiped with lenient hand her misty eyes;
With bless'd assurance cheer'd the pain-worn maid,
And bade her hopes, high-soaring, reach the skies.

There now, enroll'd with heavenly angels bright,
Whose hallow'd hymns their Maker's glories raise,
She shines, refulgent in the blaze of light,
And swells, with raptured voice, the note of praise.

Look down, bless'd saint, O, turn a pitying eye!
If yet in heaven a brother's name be dear:
In the dread hour of danger be thou nigh,
And lead me far from vice's baneful snare.

Teach me, whate'er my future lot shall be,
To God's just Will my being to resign:
Teach me to sail through life's tempestuous sea:
And like thy latest parting hour be mine!"

By an entry in the register it is noticed, that in the year 1747, "the parsonage house was rebuilt from the ground" by Mr. Penrose at his own expense. The elegant Latin epitaph to his memory, which we have given, was written by the rev. John Geree, on the monument erected by Mr. Pettit Andrews, the son-in-law of Mr. Penrose.

The promising talents and opening genius of his son could not fail of being appreciated by Mr. Penrose, and he spared no pains and care in the cultivation of his mind. Like Pope, young

Penrose "lispt in numbers." It is related, that frequently, instead of performing the exercise which his father had given him, he would be occupied in the more congenial pursuit of poetry, and produce a copy of verses which he had composed. Too great an indulgence in this taste, the father rather endeavoured to check than to encourage.

Being intended for the church, when he had sufficiently prosecuted his studies at home, he went to Oxford, and became a student of Christ Church college.

In the beginning of the year 1762, war had been declared between Great Britain and Spain, and the naval armament of the former made several successful attacks on the foreign possessions of the latter, and captured many rich vessels laden with the treasures of her transatlantic colonies. During this year, some of the richest prizes which were ever taken by the British navy, had been seized from Spain. "The majority of the nation," as is observed by an historian of the period,* "elated, or rather intoxicated with success, were eager for the continuance of the war, in the sanguine hope of new victories, already grasping in their golden dreams the treasures of Mexico and Peru."

The young and ardent mind of Penrose, then only about nineteen, caught the general enthusiasm. Actuated by a romantic spirit of adventure, and his fervent imagination probably indulging in the brilliant hopes which others had realized, he was, unhappily, induced to quit the studious but inactive retirement of his college, in order to gratify his bent for a naval and military profession. During this year, an expedition was fitted out against Nova Colonia do Sacramento, at the entrance of the river Plata in South America, consisting of three vessels, the Lord Clive of 64 guns, the Ambuscade of 40, and the Glory of 38, under the command of commodore Macnamara. Mr. Penrose embarked on board of the Ambuscade, in which vessel he acted as a lieutenant of marines. This expedition proved most disastrous. Macnamara was repulsed in the attack on Nova Colonia, which took place in January, 1763. His own ship, the Clive, was unfortunately burned, and out of 340 persons on board, only 78 escaped; the other two ships were compelled to retire in a most shattered condition. In this affair, Mr. Penrose, who had conducted himself with great

* [illegible]

gallantry, was wounded. The effect of this wound, and the hardships that he afterwards sustained in a prize sloop in which he was stationed, and which for some time cruised off the Spanish main, impaired his health and constitution; but amidst the privations and dangers of naval warfare, Mr. Penrose did not abandon his muse.

On the morning previous to the attack on Nova Colonia, he penned an ode to the lady whom he afterwards married; two pleasing stanzas of which we cannot refrain from quoting.

"For since full low among the dead,
Must many a gallant youth be laid
Ere this day's work be o'er;
Perhaps e'en I, with joyful eyes,
Who saw this morning's sun arise,
Shall see it set no more.
And when, dear maid, my fate you hear,
(Sure love like mine demands one tear,
Demands one heartfelt sigh;)
My past sad errors, O forgive,
Let my few virtues only live,
My follies with me die."

He also wrote a beautiful elegy, (both of which poems and he elegy on the death of his sister are published with his thers,) on leaving the river Plata, after their retreat from the ttack of Nova Colonia. The biographical memoir prefixed o an edition of his poems, published and edited by his brother-n-law, Mr. Pettit Andrews, in 1781, says, "that returning to England, with ample testimonials of his gallantry and good behaviour, he finished at Hertford college, Oxford, his course of studies; and having taken orders, accepted the curacy of Newbury, the income of which, by the voluntary subscriptions of the inhabitants, was considerably augmented. After he had continued in that station about nine years, it seemed as if the clouds of disappointment, which had hitherto overshadowed his prospects and tinctured his poetical essays with gloom, were clearing away; for he was then presented by a friend, who knew his worth, and honoured his abilities, to the rectory of Beckington and Standerwick, in Somersetshire, worth near £500 per annum. This came, however, too late; for the state of Mr. Penrose's health was now such as left little hope, except in the assistance of the waters of Bristol. Thither he went, and there he died in 1779, aged 36 years.

In 1768, he married Miss Mary Slocock, the eldest daughter

of Samuel Slocock, esq., of Newbury, to whom he appears t
have been for a long time attached, and who still survives hi
By her he had one child, Thomas, now the rev. Dr. Penros
of Writtle, in Essex, and of Shaw Place, Berks. He was educate
at Winchester, and New college, Oxford.

Mr. Pettit Andrews, himself an excellent scholar, and
extensive literary acquirements, and who, from his connectio
and intimacy with Mr. Penrose, possessed ample means of forma
a correct estimate of his character, thus closes his biographic
memoir:

"Mr. Penrose was respected for his extensive eruditio
admired for his eloquence, and equally beloved and esteem
for his social qualities. By the poor, towards whom he was libe
to his utmost ability, he was venerated in the highest degree.
oratory and composition, his talents were great. His pencil w
as ready as his pen, and on subjects of humour had uncommo
merit." His personal appearance and address were not less p
possessing than his mental endowments.

The editor of Chalmers' Biographical Dictionary ma
the following just remarks on the poems of Mr. Penros
"They are distinguished by exquisite feeling and taste.
thoughts are pathetic and natural, and he seems possessed
a great portion of the fire and feeling of Collins. Such poe
as "The Carousal of Odin," "Madness," and "The Fa
of Battle," are among the rare productions of modern gen
That these poems are so little known is unaccountable."
take this occasion of repeating the latter observation, and
expressing our surprise and regret that no modern edition
these poems has been published. The ode to "Madness," ma
we think, without disparagement, be compared with any produc
of the kind in the English language. It will be in the recollec
of some of our readers, that it has been quoted by one of
most splendid genius' amongst ancient or modern poets.
Penrose also published two occasional sermons, one on the de
of his friend Mr. Geree.

The rev. Richard Davies, A.M., was inducted to the living
1769, on the death of the elder Mr. Penrose. We believe
he never resided on this living. The rev. James Roe, the pres
rector, succeeded Mr. Davies on his death, and was inducted
4th of February, 1797.

Having concluded a summary account of the episcopal church, we shall proceed to give a succinct sketch of the dissenting establishments of the town of Newbury. Amongst the oldest, or the most prominent of these institutions, are, we believe, those of the presbyterians and independents, who sprang up from the nonconformists. The former may trace their origin to Woodbridge, whose adherents did not desert him amidst the vicissitudes and difficulties which chequered the path of the dissenters during the greater part of the reign of Charles II. They ventured then to follow the dictates of their dissent from the established religion of their country, only, as it were, by stealth, and by occasionally assembling, as opportunity or safety might allow. We can date the avowed and open exercise of their worship, from about the year 1672. At first the presbyterians and independents used the same place of worship,* the minister of each denomination and his followers having their assigned parts of the day for the exercise of their devotions, this continued until the death, in 1694, of Mr. John Southwell, the successor of Woodbridge. Shortly afterwards, the former established themselves in their present place of worship, under the rev. William Taylor, and the latter continued their place of meeting, (which had hitherto been occupied by both societies,) on the site of the present one, under the guidance of the rev. Benjamin Merriman. It is remarkable, that nearly all the earlier places of worship of the dissenters, are erected in confined lanes, or in places least obvious to general notice; this circumstance may be attributed to the apprehensions which were entertained of being again visited by those persecutions and molestations which the nonconformists and dissenters had heretofore encountered. This fear induced them to withdraw their places of meeting, as much as possible, from public observation, and to seek for safety, in comparatively obscure and unobtrusive situations. To those who have marked the progress and developement of religious opinions, and the powerful influence which they exercise over the institutions of a country, this narrative will not be totally devoid of interest.

* Their first joint place of worship was in Stroud-Green. In 1687, the two societies hired, for their mutual accommodation, a building in the town, (the site of the present independent chapel.)

Tracing our subject, as we are now enabled to do, from the oppressions and privations at its commencement, to the last great measure of protestant religious toleration, the repeal of the test and corporation acts, we shall find the dissenters gradually and almost imperceptibly wending their course from persecution, to a barely negative toleration, under the term "indulgence," thence to an open and legal protection, although embarrassed with a variety of civil disabilities, from time to time lessening, until the final consummation of their religious and civil liberty, by the repeal, in the year 1828. This just, though tardy legislative enactment, removed all civil restraints from the protestant dissenters, and placed them, in every respect, on an equal footing with their fellow citizens; a measure which was not one merely of justice to the former, but has tended, in a great degree, to remove those feelings of jealously towards the established church, which such marked and invidious distinctions in civil matters, were naturally calculated to produce and foster. The dissenters, in enjoying their religious rights, exempt from vexatious disabilities, are not, at least we think the greater part, unmindful of the many advantages accruing to religion itself, from a national established church; such establishment, when well regulated, affords a sheet anchor and a rallying point, a sort of nucleus to the cause of religion generally. While, therefore, they highly estimate their own religious privileges, they at the same time, are ready to appreciate the learning, piety, and zeal, which have been eminently conspicuous amongst the divines of the church of England. It is but justice to acknowledge, that an example of liberality and christian candour was never more strikingly exhibited, than in many of the sentiments which were delivered from the episcopal bench, during the discussion, in the house of lords, of the measure to which we have just alluded.

The present presbyterian meeting house was built by subscription, about the year 1697, Mr. Taylor being then the pastor. Taylor, it is believed, was educated at Oxford. He had been many years domestic chaplain to lord Wharton, and although we are uninformed whether he had any church preferment, it appears that he seceded from the establishment on the ground of nonconformity; he died suddenly, in the year 1700, in the

52nd year of his age. His place was supplied by the rev. James Peirce, who continued at Newbury till 1713, when he went to Exeter. Peirce is justly esteemed one of the most distinguished and learned of the dissenting divines; he was born at Wapping in 1674, and was educated at Utrecht and Leyden; and subsequently studied at Oxford, for the benefit of the Bodleian library. He was a man of the strictest virtue, of exemplary piety, and of great learning; he proved a powerful and fearless controversialist, and an able and zealous defender of the principles of the dissenters. He died at Exeter in 1726. The celebrated William Whiston was on intimate terms of friendship with and frequently visited him, while a resident at Newbury.*

On Peirce's leaving this town, he was succeeded by the rev. Joseph Standen, who remained the pastor of that congregation till Christmas, 1726, when having conformed to the established church, he was shortly afterwards inducted to the vicarage of Speen, of which parish he continued the incumbent until his death, in 1749, at the age of 76. He was buried in the chancel of Speen church. Mr. Standen was considered a man of talent, but of some eccentricity of manner; he possessed no small share of wit and humour, the latter sometimes bordering almost on the ludicrous, in which he would occasionally indulge, even in the pulpit.

His farewell sermon to his dissenting congregation, was from Acts xiii. v. 46, "Lo! I turn to the Gentiles." He was highly respected by both churchmen and dissenters, and continued a friendly intercourse with the latter to the time of his death. Mr. Mace and Mr. Blackburn† successively followed Standen. The former published, in 1751, a volume of sermons. The late rev. David James was the successor of

* The following is a list of Peirce's works:
Exercitatio Philosophica de Homœmeria Anaxagorea.
Thirteen Pieces on the Controversy between the Church of England and the Dissenters.
Ten Pieces on the Controversy about the Ejectment at Exeter.
Six Pieces on the Doctrine of the Trinity.
A Paraphrase and Notes, on the Epistles of St. Paul to the Colossians, Philippians, and Hebrews.
An Essay in favour of giving the Eucharist to Children; and Fourteen Sermons.

† Mr. Blackburn left a son, who was a lieutenant in the navy, and discovered an Island in the Pacific Ocean, which from him, has, in some charts, been named Blackburn Island.

Mr. Blackburn, in 1762. Mr. James was a native of Caermarthen, and received his education at the Caermarthen academy, with the intention of taking orders in the church of England. From this institution, although chiefly intended for the education of dissenters, any well conducted student, desirous of becoming a minister of the established church, and who had passed, in a creditable manner, his examination, was readily admitted by the bishop of St. David's, into holy orders. But Mr. James, during his residence at Caermarthen, became a convert to the doctrines of dissent, principally, it is said, from reading Towgood's letters to White. From whatever cause it originated, he, at this period, became fixed in his determination of adhering to the dissenters. Shortly after his leaving the academy, he visited a congregation at Dulverton, in Devonshire, where he opened a classical and mathematical school. At this place he continued, until he finally settled at Newbury: having been pastor of the latter congregation for nearly 42 years, at Midsummer, 1804, he resigned, but continued to preach occasionally, up to the last year of his life, which terminated suddenly, in his 85th year, on the 20th of April, 1822, while in the act of writing a letter to a friend. Mr. James united to respectable classical acquirements an extensive knowledge of English literature, being intimately and critically conversant with our best writers, both in prose and poetry. Of his theological knowledge and research, the works which he published sufficiently bear testimony.

In 1773 he wrote a short summary of christian principles. On the death, in 1780, of his intimate friend and constant hearer, doctor John Collet,* a physician residing at Newbury, he published a funeral sermon. In the same year he published

* Dr. Collet was born in London, July, 1708, of a reputable family. His father was a merchant: an uncle was for many years governor of Fort St. George and another settlement, in the East Indies. The subject of our note was educated at Greenwich, under doctor Ward, afterwards professor of Gresham college. Thence he went to Trinity Hall, Cambridge: afterwards, he studied physic at Leyden, which university was then considered one of the first schools for that science, under the celebrated Boerhaave. He took there his degree of M.D. in 1731. Quitting Leyden, he made an extensive tour on the continent, and remained for some time at Paris, assiduously prosecuting his professional studies; he also attended the medical schools of London, and in July, 1733, was admitted a licentiate of the college of physicians there. Shortly afterwards he settled at Newbury, where he continued, excepting during a short interval, till his death, enjoying an extensive practice and reputation in his profession.

a second edition of his "Short View of the Tenets of Tritheists, Sabellians, Trinitarians, Arians, and Socinians." In this little work, the author attempts to describe and define the different opinions which pervade christians on those points; it displays an attentive perusal and investigation of the best writers, on those intricate and conflicting topics, and is justly considered, by all parties, an intelligent, clear, and impartial statement of his subject. He also printed in 1796, "Hints relating to the Doctrine of the Trinity" and in 1804, "A Compendious View of the Christian Doctrines." His sermons were well studied, and although argumentative, were calculated for general utility His style of writing is pure and forcible. He lived highly esteemed by, and on a friendly intercourse with, many of the clergy of Newbury and its neighbourhood. As an instance of this, it may be noticed, that he gratuitously superintended, for some weeks, the classical department of the rev. Mr. Best's school, during the illness of that gentleman. The rev. John Kitcat, who married Mr. James's only surviving daughter, was his successor. Mr. Kitcat resigned in 1827. The rev. William Wilson is the present minister.

The independent dissenters continued under the pastoral care of Mr. Merriman, who had been ordained to that office, in 1686, till his death, which happened about the year 1734. From the inscription on his monument, in this chapel, which we have set forth below, it appears, that he had had the advantage of an university education.* Afterwards, Mr. Philips

* Here lyeth the remains of the
Rev. Mr. BENJAMIN MERRIMAN,
of this Town,
Born A.D. 1662,
He finished his studies
In the University of Oxford,
A.D. 1680.
was ordained
to the ministerial office
Among Protestant Dissenters,
in this Church,
A.D. 1686;
continued the beloved Pastor
thereof until his death,
October 22nd, 1734.
His bereaved church
Here bewails the loss of
His eminent abilities,
Piety, and unwearied labours.

and Mr. Sedgley, were successively ministers of this congregation; the latter died in 1754, and a memorial is inscribed in the chapel, expressive of the esteem in which he was held. He was followed by the rev. Thomas Reader, who subsequently was appointed theological tutor to the dissenting academy at Axminster, and after a residence there of about 14 years, he died in 1794. On the retirement of Mr. Reader, the pastoral office of this congregation devolved on the rev. Mr. Marchant, who fulfilled the duties till his resignation in 1784. In that year the late rev. John Winter came to Newbury, and accepted the ministerial appointment to the independents, in which capacity, he zealously and effectively exerted himself until his death, on the 25th of January, 1823, aged 74. Mr. Winter was the second son of Thomas Winter, esq. of Hammersmith, and having at an early period displayed a strong inclination for the ministry, he was educated with that view, at Homerton college, under the united tutorage of doctors Walker, Conder, and Gibbons, men of acknowledged learning and reputation. Mr. Winter was remarkable for his liberality and benevolence to the poor, and for his urbanity of manner and kindness to all. It has been said of him, and with truth, that he combined the characters of the gentleman, the scholar, and the christian. The general esteem in which he was held, was evinced on the day of his funeral, by the closing of many of the shops and private houses, not only of the dissenters, but of members of the establishment. His surviving junior brother, the rev. doctor Winter,* preached his funeral sermon, which has been published. Mr. Winter was succeeded by their present minister, the rev. William Dryland, who had been for many years his colleague.

In 1822, the old meeting house, which had been built in 1717, being much out of repair, and not sufficiently roomy, was pulled down, and the present one (capable of accommodating nearly 900 persons,) was erected by subscription, on the site.

The quakers have a small meeting house, near Bartholomew-Street. They were numerous in Newbury and its vicinity, about the middle of the seventeenth century, and suffered at

* The rev. doctor Winter has for many years had the pastoral superintendence of the independent congregation in New Court, Carey Street, London. Of this congregation, his maternal grandfather, the rev Thomas Bradbury, had been the minister.

that period much persecution. In a work styled "A Collection of the Sufferings of the people called Quakers," by Joseph Besse, may be seen an account of the numerous indictments which were preferred at the town sessions against them, and of the imprisonments and persecutions which they endured.

The "particular baptists" have an establishment in Northcroft Lane, which was erected in 1702. It is alleged that their church existed at least twenty years before the act of uniformity was passed, and that they were established in this town previous to the civil wars of Charles I.* A traditionary statement has been produced, shewing, that the first minister and the then members of the baptists, suffered much, during those wars from Charles's army.

The existence of this baptist church is carried back to the year 1640. The first regular fixed minister was a Mr. James, who remained in that capacity upwards of 60 years; he was followed by Mr. Jefferies, the father of doctor Jefferies, who was a man of some note at Bristol. After a succession of ministers, of whom nothing especially deserving notice is recorded, it is stated, that in September, 1780, the late rev. James Bicheno was appointed to the ministry, which he resigned in 1807 to Mr. Perry. On the death of that gentleman in 1812, the rev. Thomas Welch, the present pastor, was chosen.

The rev. James Bicheno, who died at an advanced age in 1831, was the author of the several works enumerated below,† and which, at the time of their publication, excited much attention. One of the American universities conferred on him

* "The circular letter from the ministers of the particular baptist churches," assembled at Newbury, in September, 1826.

† The Signs of the Times, in three parts.

The Restoration of the Jews, the crisis of all Nations; to which is prefixed, a brief History of the Jews, from their dispersion, to the calling of the Grand Sanhedrim, at Paris, October 6th, 1806, and an Address on the present state of affairs.

The Destiny of the German Empire, or an attempt to ascertain the Apocalyptic Dragon.

A Word in Season, or a call to the Inhabitants of Great Britain, to stand prepared for the consequence of the present war.

An Estimate of the Peace.

Preparation for the coming of Christ.

A glance at the History of Christianity and English Nonconformity.

A Supplement to the Signs of the Times, containing a reply to the objections of the rev. G. S. Faber, B.D. in his Dissertation on the Prophecies, and Strictures on some of the Interpretations given in that work.



the honorary degree of master of arts. In consequence of his published writings, he received some personal civilities from lord chancellor, then Mr. Erskine, who presented him with his portrait.

Mr. Bicheno was born in the village of Over, in Cambridgeshire; at the age of fifteen or sixteen years, he quitted his home and went to London in search of some employment. He had not been long in the metropolis, when he was accosted in the street by a notorious crimp* of that day, who, practising on the inexperience and credulity of Bicheno, gained his confidence, and having invited him home, treated him with every apparent liberality and kindness. At length, by alternate promises and threats, the youth was induced to go on board of a ship bound to Virginia, in North America. On his arrival there, he was sold as an indented servant or slave, to a gentleman who held the rank of colonel, and an office in the council of state.

Possessing some education, he was employed as a tutor to this gentleman's children. At first he suffered many privations, living with the common slaves: this treatment however did not continue long, for his master finding him to possess merit and abilities, humanely permitted him to board with the family. From this time he experienced kindness and even indulgence, and was allowed to have free access to the library of his employer. Fully availing himself of this advantage, he devoted the whole of his leisure to reading and study. In this situation he remained for upwards of two years, when having found means of informing his friends of his lot, they redeemed him. On his return to England, he was placed at a baptist academy, for the purpose of being qualified for a minister in that persuasion.

The Wesleyan methodists have a very neat and commodious chapel in Northbrook-Street, which was erected by subscription in the year 1804. The periodical change and succession of ministers, which are customary with the Wesleyans, preclude any minister of that denomination from becoming, as it were, personally identified with the town; consequently, we are incompetent to notice any particular individual: but, we think

* This man's name was Crispe, and was the person alluded to in the "Vicar of Wakefield," as having trepanned the vicar's son.

we may generally observe, that their ministers here, have not been deficient in that zeal and indefatigable assiduity, for which, perhaps more than any other body of christians, they are conspicuous, and some of them have been men of much literary acquirement. Prior to the erection of their present chapel, they assembled in a small and inconvenient building, in a lane near Cheap-Street. In this obscure spot their great founder, John Wesley, preached more than once.

Some seceders from the above society erected, in Bartholomew-Street, an "union chapel," in 1824; at which, Mr. Ashley is the stated preacher.

The Civil Government of Newbury.

The municipal control of the town is vested in a corporation, consisting of a mayor, high steward, recorder, six aldermen, and when the number is complete, of twenty-four capital burgesses. The town was incorporated by a charter of the 38th year of queen Elizabeth, which grants that the borough shall be "a free borough of itself." The common council is constituted of not less than sixteen of the members, namely, the mayor for the time being, three aldermen, and twelve capital burgesses, who are invested with powers to make bye laws and ordinances for the public utility and government of the borough, and the "victualling of the same." The first mayor named in the charter, was Bartholomew Yate. This magistrate is annually chosen from the burgesses, on St. Matthew's day. The corporation have the power of electing their high steward, who is authorised to constitute under his hand and seal, one or more person or persons "learned in the law," to be deputy steward. The queen's Latin secretary, sir Joseph Woolley, was the first high steward. This appointment is for life. A Court of Record is authorised to be held in the Guild-hall, on every Tuesday, weekly, throughout the year, before the mayor or one of the aldermen, to take cognizance of debts and of other matters happening within the borough, not exceeding in value twenty marks. The corporation are directed to appoint "four honest and discreet men, learned in the law of this kingdom," to be attorneys of the court, by whom the

sues and proceedings of such court are to be con
Four annual Fairs are instituted, namely, on Ascensi
on Midsummer day, on Bartholomew day, and on the
Simon and Jude. A Piepowder Court* is attached
of such fairs, with stallage, picage, fines, and amerc
appertaining to such fairs and piepowder court. Fo
privileges, the corporation are to render yearly the
three pounds, payable into the Exchequer. They a
powered to nominate one of the aldermen, who, a
mayor, are authorised to act as justices of the peace
the borough, excepting in murder and felony, or other
touching the loss of life or limb. The charter co
with the following grant and confirmation of all "suc
donations, concessions, liberties, markets, profits, cour
view of frankpledge, law days, exemptions, privileges
chises, articles and customs, which the burgesses of t
borough, by any incorporate name or names whatsoe
under colour of any incorporation by any charter, letters
or grant of us, or of any our progenitors, or by any
lawful custom or prescription, they heretofore lawfull
and enjoyed."

Further charters or grants were also made in the re
James I. and his son Charles, the latter of whom, as w
stated in a former part of this work, granted to the corp
the manor of Newbury. But the charter of Elizabeth
principal one, and whence the judicial and magisterial au
and privileges are almost wholly derived.

It was formerly considered that the mayor and justi
ercised an exclusive jurisdiction, and that the justices
peace for the county had no authority whatever with
borough. Although the latter are not in the habit of
fering with the local magistrates, and willingly, as a ma
courtesy, concede to them the jurisprudence of thei
borough, yet no doubt can be entertained, that the
magistrates have at least a concurrent jurisdiction.

* "The court of the clerk of the market is incident to every fair and market in
dom, to punish misdemeanours therein, as a court of pie poudre is, to determine all
relating to private or civil property." Black. Com. v. 1. p. 275.

There is not in either of the charters what the lawyers term a "non intromittant clause," that is, a clause expressly prohibiting county magistrates from interfering or having jurisdiction within the borough. Without such express prohibition, the judgment of the court of King's Bench has been on several occasions, decisive in favour of the paramount or at least concurrent authority of such magistrates. Under the same mistaken impression of exclusive jurisdiction and exemption, the inhabitants of the borough, until within these few years, had escaped from assessment to the county rate, and from serving on county juries and other county offices. The borough then defrayed the expense of their own gaol and prisoners. The payment of county rates having been enforced, they now send their prisoners to the county gaol, and are relieved from the expense of such an establishment of their own. Under these circumstances, the question was scarcely worth contention, nevertheless, it is supposed by many, the borough never having previously contributed to county payments, that there was a legal presumption of the existence of an ancient prescriptive exemption, recognised and protected by the charter. The corporation had for a length of time asserted and exercised the claim of a Toll traverse on all corn which was brought into the town. This was resisted, and at a trial at Abingdon, in the Summer Assizes of 1818, a verdict against the corporation was given. This body having been defeated where they possessed no right, have since abandoned, or have not enforced a claim to which it is conceived they have by their charter an undoubted right, namely, a Market Toll on all corn pitched in their market. Perhaps the injury to the trade and market by insisting on this claim, may be greater than the emolument to be derived therefrom, if so, the corporation have acted prudently in waiving their pretension. The earl of Carnarvon is the present lord high steward, to which he was appointed on the death of the late earl of Craven. The late James Blackstone, esq. (son of the distinguished judge and commentator,) was for many years the recorder; on his resignation, lord Amesbury, then Mr. Charles Dundas, and one of the members for the county, was appointed by lord Craven to the office. On the death of lord Amesbury, William Whately, esq. was named by the earl of Carnarvon to fill that situation.

The Public Charities of Newbury.

The town possesses a great number of almshouses and other charitable institutions. We have already alluded to the *Hospital of St. Bartholomew*. The estates which are supposed to belong to this endowment, yield a large revenue. It was formerly under the government of a master, warden, or prior, but has since devolved on the corporation. From the parliamentary abstract of the return relative to this hospital, it appears that the charity was given for maintaining and clothing seven men and six women, and for a nurse to attend them, and for repairing the almshouses. The income arising from the property attached to this endowment, amounted, in the year 1786, to £289 19s. 2d. The writer of a series of letters which were published about 1817 and 1818, on the charities of Newbury, says, that the grants of king John for the foundation of this charity, were in the years 1204 and 1216. By an inquisition taken in the reign of Henry VIII. we learn that it was called "Seynt Bartylmees, having lands belonging thereto valued at twenty-three pounds and twentie pence halfpenny, to the intent to have one prest to synge in the said hospitall, and two pore men to pray there contynewally, and every one of them to have for their stipends as thereafter followeth, namely, for the prest £4, and to the pore men 26s. 8d. rents paid £2 18s. 9d. and so remayneth £14 16s. 3½d. for Syr Roger Bormer, clerke, master of the same hospitall, for reparringe of the houses there."

Since the superintendence of this charity has been vested in the corporation, one of their body is appointed proctor, whose duty is to receive the rents, and to apply the same to the payment of the almspeople, the salary of the chaplain, the repairs of the houses, and the other outgoings requisite for the purposes of the charity.

The gross income of this eleemosynary, was, in 1816, £744 18s. 3½d. In 1813, ten new almshouses were built: the expense (£1440) and endowment of which, were defrayed out of an accumulation of savings from the income. The pay to the almspeople is 5s. per week, with coats and gowns once in two years. A donation is given to each of 13½d. on St. Thomas's day, and 5s. on St. Bartholemew's day, the latter payable from

the tolls of that fair: they have also yearly, a supply of fuel. Within these few years, some additional almshouses have been erected on this foundation, but they are not at present endowed.

Raymond's Charity.—This is the next which we shall notice, and we cannot improve on the following statement, which we have extracted from the writer above alluded to: "The twelve original almshouses, (now the Church almshouses,) were built at the costs of Phillip Jemmet, of the parish of St. Botolph without Bishopsgate, London, esq. who, by his will, dated 23rd January, 1676, gave them to his grandson, sir Jemmet Raymond, knight, who was the son and heir of sir Jonathan Raymond, of Henwick, for the sole and only use of twelve poor people to dwell in; and he endowed them with 12d. a week to be paid for ever, out of the rents of the Globe Inn, and a small piece of land near. And the testator gave unto his son-in-law, sir Jonathan, £600, to be laid out in the purchase of lands of the clear yearly value of £32, for augmenting the weekly pension of 12d. to 2s. In the year 1707, sir Jonathan and sir Jemmet, in pursuance of Mr. Jemmet's will, granted unto Mr. Roger Geater, a piece of land whereon the Church almshouses stood, and the great or rectorial tithes arising from twenty-seven yard lands* in Elcot and Clapton, in the parish of Kintbury, upon trust, to encrease the pay of the almspeople to 2s. weekly, and to purchase a new blue cloth gown; to pay 40s. yearly to some person for reading prayers to the sick, and to pay the residue of the rents to sir Jemmet. Lady Raymond, (the wife of sir Jonathan, and the daughter of Mr. Jemmet,) did, also, by her will, dated 26th May, 1709, give £400 to her son Jemmet, to be laid out in the purchase of lands for increasing the pay 6d. per week, and if there should be any surplus, for assisting the pensioners in their sickness, or providing fuel or necessaries. By a bargain and sale, dated 18th March, 1763, between Jemmet Raymond, esq. of Barton, (the son and heir-at-law of sir Jemmet Raymond,) and the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of Newbury, Mr. Raymond revoked the deed of 1707, and in order to perpetuate the charitable donations of his ancestors, and to keep invested the said sums of £400 and £600 in lands, granted all the premises before mentioned, also three

* A yard land consists of about 22 acres.

small pieces of land, and three meadows in the parish of Speen, near the White House, in substance, for the following purposes: to pay twelve poor people, six men and six women, 2s. 6d. a piece weekly, whilst living in the almshouses; to provide them, on or about the first of May, yearly, a good new broad cloth gown, not less than 7s. per yard; to give assistance to such poor people as are sick, with fuel or other necessaries; to pay to the rector, or his order, the yearly sum of £5, by weekly payments, to procure a decent person to read prayers twice a week to the almspeople; and to insure the almshouses from losses by fire." The yearly surplus is directed to be placed out at interest, to accumulate until £400 be raised as a fund to answer contingencies, and out of the interest of such latter sum, to make a further encreased allowance to the almspeople, not exceeding 5s. per week each, or to build more almshouses. The corporation nominate two poor persons, natives, and at the time, parishioners of the town, of whom the rector elects one. A preference is given to such as have paid poor rates and have not received parish relief. In the year 1706, the old houses were transferred to the church, and are now used as the church almshouses. Twelve new houses were built at the expense of about £1200, on the north side of the Cheese Fair close, on land which was given by St. Bartholomew's hospital, in exchange for a garden adjoining the present church almshouses. The income of this charity in 1816, was £432 17s. 7d.

St. Mary's Hill Almshouses.—These almshouses are said to have been founded about the year 1656, for six old maids, but the original founder is unknown. The resources of this charity have been encreased by many subsequent donations. The whole income, in 1786, appears to have been only £23 10s. 0d. In 1817 it is said to amount to £99 2s. 0d. The almswomen receive only 2s. 6d. per week from this charity, but an additional payment of 1s. 6d. per week is made to each, from St. Bartholomew's, and 1s. from Kimber's charities; they have also an allowance of fuel.

The Church Almshouses.—It is unknown, when or by whom these were originally founded. They are for six poor men and six poor women. The almshouse, which was formerly situated in the churchyard, having become ruinous, and there not being

sufficient room for rebuilding it, sir Jemmet Raymond's old almshouses were purchased and repaired for the inmates of this charity. There have been very numerous benefactions to this foundation, the total income of which, in 1817, was £170 10s. The allowance to these almspeople has been also augmented by 1s. per week from St. Bartholomew's, and 1s. from Kimber's charity.

The corporation are the trustees and administrators of these charities.

Church Endowments or Church Rents.—Considerable estates are vested in the churchwardens by various donations, consisting of several houses in the town and some land in the neighbourhood, and a small farm at Ealing, in the parish of Hampstead Norris; the aggregate rental of which, in 1817, amounted to £131 11s. 0d. A prudent and economical expenditure of this revenue, renders it unnecessary to levy on the inhabitants any church rate.

Kendrick's Charity.—John Kendrick, who was a native of Reading, and was a citizen and draper of London, by his will, dated 29th December, 1624, gave to the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the town of Newbury, £4000 to buy a commodious house and garden within the town, "to set the poor on work," and to furnish a common work for the employment of the poor in the said house. He also gave to the corporation, £500, to be lent in £50 each to industrious clothiers, (and if no clothiers, to other tradesmen,) free of the town, gratis, for three years. Also, £250 to be laid out in land or hereditaments, of the clear value of £10 a year, "to maintain divine service to be said in the parish church of that town by the parson or his curate, every morning of the week, at six of the clock, to continue for ever." This last donation was invested by the corporation in the 14th year of the reign of Charles I. in the purchase of a messuage and 24 acres of land in Newbury. The prayers in the church, at the above hour in the morning, have been long discontinued.

The present wharf was purchased out of Kendrick's donation, in 1627, the income from which, with other property, in 1817, amounted to £135 2s. 6d. The Kennet and Avon Canal Company, held the wharf by lease, for a term of 99 years,



which expired in 1822, at a rent of £106. Kendrick's charity is involved in much obscurity, and part is apprehended to be lost.

Cowslade's Charity.—Richard Cowslade, by deed, dated 30th May, 1715, gave some land at Greenham, about 46 acres, to nine members of the corporation, for the education and clothing while at school, of ten poor boys, natives and inhabitants of Newbury, to be selected by the corporation. The same donor, by deed, dated 27th June, following, granted a farm, (about 120 acres of land,) at Holt, in Kintbury, called "Waterman's," in trust, to pay yearly £30 to the organist of Newbury, £5 for repairing the organ, and £5 to the mayor towards defraying the expense of his inauguration feast. The appointment of the organist is vested in the corporation, who are visitors and auditors of the accounts of the trustees. By deed, dated 20th March, 1723, Thomas Cowslade gave the rents of this farm for the repair of the organ, and the remainder to be applied towards apprenticing poor boys, legal inhabitants of Newbury, to be chosen out of the blue-coat boys, established on the charity of Richard Cowslade; if none of those, then to be selected from the other blue-coat boys. In 1730, some legal proceedings relative to the surplus rents of this property took place between Thomas Cowslade and the mayor. After some litigation, it was agreed that Cowslade should become tenant of the premises, and in 1733, they were leased to him for 999 years, at the yearly rent of £60, payable to the corporation. In 1807, the earl of Craven purchased this farm, subject to the above yearly rent.

Pearce's and Coxedd's Charities.—Thomas Pearce, a clothier of the town, by will, dated in 1671, endowed two almhouses situate at West Mills, for poor weavers, "of honest life and of good manners." The original allowance was 3s. per week, but it has for some years been encreased to 4s. 6d. with a supply of clothing and fuel. A donation of 6s. weekly is made to some decayed weavers, as out-pensioners. The income is derived from land and houses at Newbury, Westbrook, and Benham. By will, dated in 1690, Francis Coxedd gave two messuages at West Mills, "then in the possession of his two poor almsmen." The objects of this charity receive 2s. 6d.

per week, with an allowance for clothing and fuel. The surplus income is directed to be applied in the education of such poor children of the town as the trustees may think fit. The revenue arises from land in Shaw, Thatcham, and Newbury.

The above two charities are under the management of four trustees elected from the presbyterian dissenters.

In 1729, Thomas Hunt founded, by his will, an almshouse at West Mills, for three poor widows, who receive a weekly allowance of 3s. with a small donation of fuel and clothing; the remaining income, which is derived from a small farm at Cold Ash, in Thatcham, is devoted to the instruction of poor children. This foundation is under the direction of four trustees appointed from the independent dissenters. It also receives a small augmentation from Kimber's.

Benjamin Robinson, in 1754, established three almshouses for poor weavers, and endowed them with 2s. per week each, and a waggon load of peat yearly. The weekly allowance is encreased to 3s. 6d. from Kimber's trustees.

Kimber's Charity.—Twelve almshouses near the Market-Place were built in 1795, pursuant to the will of alderman Kimber, at the expense of nearly £2000, and amply endowed, for six poor men and the like number of women. A piece of ground is attached, of sufficient size to accommodate each occupant with a small allotment for garden. The allowance to each is 5s. per week, with a good supply of fuel, and some clothing every alternate year.

The trustees are six in number, the rector is one, ex-officio: not more than one member of the corporation can be a trustee at the same time.

The weavers, who were formerly an important and influential class of the inhabitants, enjoy a charter granted to them in the 44th year of queen Elizabeth. The company, (about 40 in number,) are under the guidance of six officers, namely, two wardens, and four assistants. Their property consists of two houses in Cheap-street, one a public house called the Weavers' Arms, and the house adjoining, producing together a rental of £29; which is expended in defraying their annual feast in September, and in some clothing to the members.

The inhabitant payers of rates have the privilege, under a deed of gift in 1720, from John and Frances West, of electing



annually 13 children, eight boys and five girls, to be educated at Christ's Hospital in London. Those who can claim in any degree to be of kin to the founders, are entitled to the preference.

The town does not return members to parliament, but in the reign of Edward I. it sent two burgesses. In the early period of our parliamentary history, we find, that instead of the eager competition to become a representative of parliament, so conspicuous in modern days, the office was reluctantly accepted. The boroughs being then compelled to support their members, were anxious to escape this expense, and in returns to the writs of election, would frequently decline the privilege on the allegation of poverty. Probably from this cause, Newbury lost its elective borough franchise.

That it was a wealthy and an important town in the reign of Edward III., appears from its sending at that period, three representatives to a great counsel at Westminster. It was formerly noted as one of the largest clothing manufactures in the kingdom. The clothiers of the town were in their day, esteemed amongst the wealthiest tradesmen and merchants of the country, and some of them became possessors of large landed property in the county. The most eminent of them were the two to whom we have already had occasion to refer, John Winchcombe and sir Thomas Dolman. The former is said to have kept 100 looms at work in his own house, and to have marched at the head of 100 of his own workmen, "as well armed and better *clothed* than any," into Scotland, and assisted at the battle of Flodden Field. This event occurring within six years of the death of Winchcombe, who died at an advanced age, it is scarcely credible that he himself, with his pacific habits and pursuits, marched on a distant warlike expedition: but there is sufficient reason to believe that he furnished the above complement of men, who, if we may confide in the historical ballad, did good service as bowmen in that conflict, so fatal to the nobility and chivalry of Scotland.* Little, if any reliance, can be placed on the account

* The following, selected from a collection of ancient ballads, is the one alluded to.

"FLODDEN FIELD.

THE NEWBERRIE ARCHERS.

AN OLD HISTORICAL SONG.

Come Archers learne the Newes I telle
To the Honour of yonne Arte
The Scottyshe Kinge at Floddon falle
Bye the prowde of an Englyshe Darte

known and learned antiquary, doctor Meyrick, alleges that these people formed their weapons of a metal composed principally of copper, with an admixture of tin.*

The peat when dug out and exposed to the air becomes dry and brittle, and formerly was much used for firing in farmhouses and cottages, but since coals have been more plentifully supplied, the consumption of peat, as fuel, has much decreased. It is still burnt in large quantities for the ashes, which are esteemed an excellent manure for some kinds of land, especially cold and moist soils. Notwithstanding it has been asserted that peat does not again grow, and perhaps strictly speaking that may be the case, yet it is well known to peat cutters, that in some favourable districts where peat has been cut, in the course of subsequent years a peaty substance will again accumulate, and become capable of being cut and burnt into ashes for manure. This we can conceive to be the fact, for there must be the same capability of producing peat now as there ever was, if the country were to revert to its original uninhabited and uncultivated state. Under such circumstances and in the revolution of ages, trees, underwood, and other matter would again grow, again decay, and in certain marshy and undrained soils, again produce and be converted into peat.

Various speculations have been broached as to the original cause of peat, and as to what era it ought to be traced; whether a deposit immediately arising from the general or Mosaic deluge, or as having accumulated in subsequent periods. The latter is the best received opinion, and it is generally supposed that peat and such formations are not to be attributed to the last great catastrophe, the Mosaic deluge, or to that of any preceding age; but to deposits of vegetable and other matter in marshy soils, which, when the country was thinly inhabited, and undrained, in the course of ages encreased and consolidated. In low and swampy grounds, the willow, alder, and hazel were likely to grow; the oak also thrives in wet land. The prostration of these trees, which have the appearance of having been torn up by the roots, was probably caused by storms, age,

* We quote only from memory, but we think we are correct in stating doctor Meyrick as our authority; but unfortunately the precise passage in his writings has escaped our recollection and research.

or other circumstances, which are found to operate on the woods and forests of America and other partially populated countries. An examination of the peat evinces that it is almost wholly composed of vegetable and fresh water debris.

Notwithstanding that the oak is frequently observable, yet no acorns have been found, the soft substance of the latter was likely soon to perish, and to become amalgamated in the general mass. It is also obvious that these relics of forests, or, if we may borrow a more descriptive term, "jungles," were the resort of wild animals; the beaver, boar, stag, and wild or Caledonian ox, whose skeletons, when they died, became buried in the peat, as the latter from time to time accumulated. The relic of no marine animal of any description, has, that we are aware of been discovered. The investigation of this interesting subject, were we to permit ourselves to be drawn into it, would lead to a wide field of enquiry, and one that is foreign to this work. At the same time we may be excused for introducing a short disquisition, arising out of this peculiar feature of the neighbourhood. An attempt partially to ascertain the various revolutions which this globe has undergone, has occupied the attention of distinguished philosophers and naturalists; especially within the last 30 years. But no investigations have led to such important results as those of doctor Buckland and of the late baron Cuvier, especially of the latter; results which prove to a demonstration that this planet has, at different eras, encountered various phenomena, materially affecting and changing its surface. At one time, an inundation of salt water has pervaded the earth, which after a period, has subsided, leaving embedded in its alluvial soil, the remains of the inhabitants of marine water. This inundation has, in the course of ages, been succeeded by one of fresh water, which, in its turn receding, left embedded in its debris, the remains of animals which only live in fresh water lakes. These alternations took place at intervals, which allowed the earth, after the retreat of each inundation, to be reinhabited by terrestrial animals, whose skeletons and fossil remains are discovered in numerous quantities dispersed through the different successions of strata. As in the primitive formations no fossil remains have been ascertained, it has been inferred that there was a period in which

this earth was not inhabited. Cuvier has traced in the vicinity of Paris, proofs of a great number of these alternate revolutions. It is well known that not only has been discovered a great variety of fossil remains of animals, of a species totally different from any now known to inhabit the earth, but also of animals still existing, which could not live, according to the present temperature of this globe, in spots where their skeletons are found. That in the lower or earlier strata, have been brought to light, the skeletons of animals of a stupendous size, and apparently of a more rude formation. As if nature had improved in her mechanism, the simplest animals are found in the earliest secondary formations, and in the subsequent and higher strata are discovered the skeletons of those of a more complicated structure, of greater organic development, and of more elegant and perfect conformation. It is observed by Cuvier,* that the bones of the species which appear the same as ours, present themselves only in the last deposits of alluvions, formed on the banks of rivers or of old ponds, or dried marshes, or in the depths of turf-layers. From the deposits and bones discovered in the peat, we arrive at the conclusion that this substance is a postdiluvial deposit, which has accumulated since and independent of the last and most influential revolution of this globe, the Mosaic deluge. The bones are those of terrestrial animals, well known as existing in the present day, (although not in the present districts of the peat,) or as having existed within the knowledge and tradition of men.

But one far more important conclusion may be drawn from this interesting subject, which is, that the researches and investigations of naturalists and philosophers prove, that at some period a catastrophe of a general deluge must have taken place, and tend to confirm the Mosaic account of this infliction of divine punishment on the human race. Since the preceding observations on the peat were written, the upper part or scalp of a human skull has been dug from the same ground at Speen, whence the spear heads were taken—it was lying deep in the peat. No other bones were discovered near, excepting some teeth exactly corresponding

* Cuvier on the Revolutions of the Surface of the Globe, p. 70.

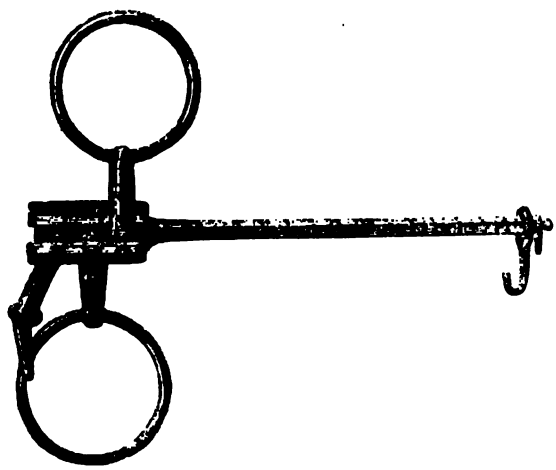
in size and character, with those that are in the head the ox to which we have before adverted. How long th relics had lain "in cold obstruction," or what event brou them in juxtaposition, we leave to conjecture; it mi have been some casualty in hunting. The occurrence, ho ever, obviously denotes the great antiquity of this remn of the human frame, and that it probably belonged to o of the Aborigines of the Island. Doctor Buckland, in l interesting and scientific paper, (read February 8th, 182 "On the Formation of the Valley of Kingsclere and oth valleys by the Elevation of the Strata that enclose them, a on the evidences of the original continuity of the Basins London and Hampshire," mentions, that "a human skull high antiquity, has been found in it, (the peat near N bury,) at a depth of many feet, at the contact of the p with a] substratum of shell marl. It was accompanied rude instruments of stone, which lead us to conclude th it was the skull of one of the Aboriginal inhabitants of t Island, who had not the art of working metals." This p bable conclusion throws us back to a very remote age, long before the Roman invasion, as it is well known previous to such period, the working in metal was familia the Britons.

A large head of the deer kind was also very recently from the peat, at a depth of several feet; the horns perished, but the circumference of the base or root c horn, measures rather more than 10 inches. The learn ologist whom we have just quoted, in describing fragm horns found in the Kirkdale cave, says, "one of these re the horn of the common stag or red deer, the circumfe the base measuring 9¾ inches, which is about the size largest stag."* The head which we are noticing, is most l of the largest species of stag.

A curious small implement, resembling a steely presented in the engraving,) was also a short found deeply imbedded in some peat in Thatcha pears to consist of the same description of met

* Reliquiæ Diluvianæ.

of the spear heads: we are, therefore, induced to refer its manufacture and use to the ancient inhabitants of this island.



With the exception of the peat district, the country immediately round Newbury affords little scope for the investigation and research of the geologist. We may notice that a deep bed of oyster shells is observable in the clay pit of the brick-kiln near Shaw. Sometimes they are found almost decayed and crumbled in small pieces; at other times the shell is discovered perfect. It may be stated as an invariable observation, that chalk is sure to be found under a bed of oysters; but, as is well known, the converse of this position is by no means the case.*

In concluding our imperfect historical narrative of the town of Newbury, we must not forget

"The Kennet swift for silver eels renowned:"

and not less celebrated for its trout, which in the neighbourhood of the town are of the greatest beauty and finest flavour. They are in the highest season in May. Cray fish are also found in abundance in the river and its tributary streams. The

* In digging a well a short time since by the road side, near Bartholomew's, a petrified oyster in good preservation, was detected lying in a stratum of gravel, about three feet below the surface.

trout have been noticed both by Fuller in his Worthies, and by the editor of the Magna Britannia; the latter mentions one which was caught at Newbury to have measured in length, 4 inches. A gentleman, formerly of this town, (Mr. Toomer who was one of the most experienced and skilful fishermen his day, kept for many years, trouts in a stew, some of whi grew to a very large size. He had several from 15 to pounds weight, which had been fattened in his stew, and that weighed as much as 15 pounds when taken from river. They are frequently caught from four to six, and eight or ten pounds, but are never in higher perfection the table than when of about the former size. The Kenn and Avon Canal affords a complete water conveyance from Lond to Bristol.

In 1825, an Act of Parliament was passed "for lighting watching, paving, cleansing, and improving the streets, hig ways, and places within the borough town and parish of Newbu and the tithing or hamlet of Speenhamland."





ADDENDA.

rant of arms to John Winchcombe, esq., eldest son of John chcombe, commonly called "Jack of Newbury." Extracted a volume of MSS. in the Harleian Collection preserved in British Museum.



To all present and to come which these present letters shall see, rede, or here. Sȳr Xō̃fer Barker Knyght, aĺs Garter Principall Kinge of Armes of Englishemen, sendeth due and humble recomendation and greeting. Equity willethe and reason ordeineth that men vertuous and of comable disposic̄on and lyueing, bee by their merites and renoamme rewarded, and had in perpetuall memory for re good name; and to be in all places of honoure and shippe amonges other noble parsō̃s accepted and reputed, shewing of certain ensignes and tokens of vertue, honour, gentleness, that is to wyt. Armes and Crest. To entente that by theire Insample, other shulde the more everantly inforce themselues to vse theire tyme in such urable wourkes and vertuous deedes, whereby they myght Purchase and gett the renoume of Antient Noblesse heir ligne and Posterity. And theirfore, I the foresayd Xō̃fer Barker, Knyght, aĺs Garter Principall Kynge of es as abouesaid, which not alonely by the comen Vulgar but also by mine oune knowledge and by the reporte divers antient Gentlemen and other credable Parsons, truly informed and advertysed that John Wychecome Newbury, in the County of Barkeshire, hathe longe counted in vertue, and in all his actō̃s and in other his eanynge hath discretly and wourshipfully guyded and uerned himselfe, that he hathe deserued and is well



wourthye from henseforthe to be in all places of honour and wourshippe amonges other noble parsones accepted and reputed into the noumber of and company of Auncient Gentell and Nobell Men, and for the remembraunce and consideracõn of the same, his vertue, habilliter, and gentleness, and also by Vertue, Power, and Autority to mine Office of Principall Kyng of Armes annexed and attrubuted by the Kinge our Soveraigne Lord. I haue devised, ordained, and assigned vnto and for the said John Wychecome, the Armes and Crest with th'apurtenances hereafter following, that is to wytt. Asure a cheueron ingralled betweene 3 xlose Eglets Golde—Apon the cheueron three cinquefoyles of the feild, Perseyed of second and first of the same—a flordellis between ij spereheds of the field—Appon his Crest a roebuckes hede rassed quarterly, golde and asure, holding in his mouth a bvery vert, set upon a torche argente and asure—the mantellet gueles lyned argent, bottoned gould, as more playnly appeareth dissected in this margent; to haue and to hold vnto the said John Wichecome and his posterity, with theire due differrences therein to be rebested to his honoure for euermore. In Witnes whereof, I the sayd Gart. Principall King of Armes as abousaid, haue signed these presents with mine oume hand and therevnto haue set the seale of mine office, and also the seale of myne armes. Geven at London, the xxvi day of October, in the yere of oure Lorde God, M^o V^c xlix. and of the Reigne of our Soveraigne Lord Kinge Edward Syxt, by the Grace of God Kinge of England, France, and Irelande, Defender of the Fayth; and in Earthe of the Churche of Englande, and also of Irelande the supreme hede[a] the thyrd yeare.

X. B. als Gartier Principall
Kinge of Armes of Englishemen.

[a] It is worthy of observation, that in the continuation of this document, the sovereign is described as being "In earthe of the Churche of Englande, and also of Irelande the

In the MSS. in the Harleian Collection, is a representation of sir Christopher Barker, in his robes of office, as garter principal king of arms, side by side with the escutcheon granted by him to the Winchcombe family.*

Extracts from Newbury Churchwarden's Book, 1642 to Easter, 1643.

	£	s.	d.
Paid for Ringing on the Coronation Day.....	0	5	0
Paid for Ringing for Prince Rupert.....	0	2	6

Given at the Vestry, 23rd Aug. 1644, Account passed by Gabriel Cox, Mayor.

Paid for Watching on the Tower	0	0	6
Paid for Watching on the Tower	0	0	6
Ringing when the King was in Town	0	5	0
Paid for burying the dead Soldiers in Churchyard and Wash	3	0	1
Paid for Shrouds	0	6	4
Burying Soldiers in the Church	3	4	4

Given at the Vestry, 20th Sept, 1645, Account passed by Wm. Nash, Mayor.

Paid for a Shroud for a Soldier, carrying him to Church	0	0	8
Carrying Soldier and Cleaning the Church	0	5	0
Carrying Soldier, and Making a great Grave	0	4	0
Carrying a Soldier to Burying	0	1	4

supreme hede." This addition to the usual style of English monarchs was first assumed by king Henry VIII., and after much controversy, and with some qualifications, conceded to him by the clergy in convocation, in the year 1531, and by both houses of parliament, A.D. 1544.† There were, nevertheless, many of the more zealous followers of the Church of Rome, who declined acknowledging the supremacy of the king in ecclesiastical matters; the principal of these were the illustrious and excellent Sir Thomas More, and the pious and venerable John Fisher, bishop of Rochester, who were both executed within a few days of each other, for their conscientious refusal to allow any temporal potentate a dignity which they conceived to belong to the pope alone. During the remainder of Henry's reign and that of his son and successor, the style of supreme head, on earth, of the Church of England, was still retained; but immediately upon the accession of queen Mary, that princess sent a solemn deputation to Rome, to renounce what she considered an impious and heretical assumption of the papal dignity, and to implore the pontiff to receive herself and her subjects once again into the bosom of the Church. It is probable that from this period, the style of supreme head of the Church (though still legal) was very generally disused by succeeding sovereigns, as among a considerable number of grants contained in the volume from which the above has been extracted, and dated in the reigns of Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I. and II., there is not a single instance of its introduction by the heralds who have successively drawn them.

† Hume's Hist. Eng., and Burnet's Hist. of Reformation.

* We are indebted to an intelligent corespondent for the foregoing extract of the Winchcombe Armorial Grant, and for the note appended thereto.



	£	s.	d.
Shroud for a Soldier	0	3	4
Carrying and Burying 3 Soldiers	0	3	0
Coffiin for a Lieutenant	0	7	0
For Carrying, Burying Soldier	0	1	2
For Carrying another Soldier to Burying	0	1	0
Burying 2 Soldiers more	0	2	0
Burying 6 Soldiers more	0	5	6
Shrouds for Soldiers	0	3	6
Carrying a Soldier and Burying	0	1	0
Digging Graves for Soldiers	0	4	0
Burying 3 Soldiers more	0	4	6
Ditto 4 ditto	0	6	6
Digging Graves	0	2	2
Burying 2 Soldiers	0	3	5
Ditto 2 ditto	0	3	0
Ringing for the King	0	5	0
Paid to the King's Servants	1	0	0
Burying a Soldier	0	1	6
Digging 19 Graves, and Cleansing the Church	0	4	0
Burying a Soldier	0	1	6
Ditto ditto	0	1	6
Received of Dr. Barker, for Burying Colonel Smith in the Chancel	0	13	4
1647.—Paid to Richard Jerome for Dr. Twisse his Picture	1	15	0
1651.—Paid for Ringing for the General Cromwell	0	2	6
1652. Paid for Ringing for the Judge	0	2	6
1658.—Paid to the Ringers at the Inauguration of the Lord Protector	0	5	0
1660. Paid John for setting up the King's Arms	0	15	0
1665. Paid at Abingdon Assizes for Witnesses, Charges, &c., &c., concerning the Riot in the Church; prosecuted by my Lord "Londlane" his especial direction	2	2	0
1682. Paid to Hugh Kettle for prosecuting the Quakers	0	10	0
Received of the Quakers	3	2	0

The British Ships, Prince Frederick, Captain Talbot; the Duke, Captain Morecock; and two English privateers, captured two French ships in the year 1745, heavy laden with dollars and gold and silver bars, and other valuable merchandize. The prizes were landed at Bristol. Forty-seven waggons laden with the treasure, and guarded by troops, were drawn into Newbury Market place, in their way to London.

SPEEN.

We shall now place before our readers some account of the adjoining parish of Speen. The length of this parish is about four miles and a half; the greatest breadth about three, and the average breadth two miles. The population may be estimated at 3100. It is the Spone of the Domesday Book, by the description in which Bagnor, a hamlet of this parish and Spone are mentioned as being in the hundred of Taceham, (Thatcham.) They are thus stated, "Hunfrid the Chamberlin holds Bagnore of the King. Ulvena held it of King Edward in freehold. 3 hides of pasture, now one hide of pasture. The arable land is 3 carucates. In demesne is one (carucate) & 3 villagers, & 3 bondmen with 2 ploughs. There is one servant, & a mill of 20 shillings & 22 acres of meadow. A wood of 4 (acres.) Its present & late value 4 pounds.

"The land of Hunfrid Vis de Lew. In Tacehame hundred. Hunfrid Vis de Lew holds Spone of the king. Carlo held it of King Edward in freehold. 10 hides of pasture, now 5 hides. The arable land is 9 carucates. In demesne there are 3 carucates & 9 villagers and 10 bondmen with 6 ploughs. There is a church & 7 servants and a mill of 22 shillings & 60 acres of meadow. A wood of 3 (acres) Its value was 8 pounds, now 10 pounds. To the church belongs half a hide of the arable land itself." The parish is now comprised partly in the hundred of Faircross, and partly in that of Kintbury Eagle. It had formerly a market on Mondays, granted in 1218, to William Marshall, earl of Pembroke. Speen lays claim to be derived from and to contain the ancient Spinæ of the Romans. We shall shortly canvass the grounds on which this pretension is founded, and the result, we think will shew that few questions of antiquarian locality can be more satisfactorily established. In discussing this point, we will observe, that in our use of the term "Speen," we mean to designate rather the village than the parish. We are aware with what readiness antiquaries seize on a plausible similitude



in name, on which to affix an hypothesis; while, therefore, in the present case we may advance, as an ancillary argument, the derivation of Speen from Spinæ, it will at the same time be found that our conclusion rests on other and more decisive reasons. In the prosecution of our enquiry, the judicious axiom laid down by Sir Richard Colt Hoare, in his History of Ancient Wiltshire, "that no place should be regarded as Roman, unless Roman remains have been found at or near it," will be our guide.

Berkshire, as is well known, possessed three principal Roman towns or stations; one, Spinæ, the other, Bibracte, its position unknown, or very uncertain; and as to the third, although the name is lost, yet from the remains of Roman coins, and other antiquities and indications, little doubt is entertained that Wallingford is entitled to this claim. Speen has been conjectured to be the situation of the first station. The rev. Thomas Leman, in 1813, by minute and careful personal examination and admeasurements, clearly ascertained that the station had been on the site of the rev. George Wyld's house and surrounding ground, and near the junction of the two roads from Aquæ Solis (Bath), and from Glevum (Gloucester), through Durocornovium (Cirencester).* The Bishop of Cloyne, as stated in Lysons, for which work, the bishop expressly drew up the result of his investigations, likewise strongly advocates this opinion. In speaking of the Roman road from Gloucester to London, and having traced it to Wickham, thence, he says, "it goes over Wickham Heath, and falls into the modern high road from Bath to London, near the 58th milestone, in less than a mile after which, it must have reached the station of Spinæ or Speen. No antiquities [illegible] have been discovered to fix the exact site of this town, but the name and distance are sufficient to convince us that it must have been within the parish of Speen." We read in the [illegible] to show that Roman antiquities have been discovered [illegible], and to place, we think, beyond doubt the [illegible] of this station. The bishop continues, "so far we have proceeded with some degree of certainty,

* [illegible]



but the course of the Roman road from Spinæ to London, has never yet been ascertained." Doctor Beke, in a paper read to the Society of Antiquaries, 9th of December, 1804,* considers that Thatcham is the Spinæ of the Romans. We give his words, "Spinæ, (the Thorns) the first station west of Calleva, has usually been supposed to be at Speen, (Spone of the Domesday Book). This distance is twice stated at 15 Roman miles, which agrees exactly with Thatcham, but is not enough by three miles for even the nearest parts of Speen." Doctor Beke's conjecture, as to Thatcham, is founded evidently on the erroneous supposition, that Coley near Reading, was the ancient Calleva. He adopts this opinion chiefly from the similarity of names, an inclination to which, as we have hinted, antiquaries are somewhat prone. The distance of Reading, *his* Calleva, from Spinæ (XV Roman miles as stated in the Itineraries,) being too far from Speen, he stretches the station of Spinæ without adducing any sufficient reason, to Thatcham, in order that it may be made, like the occupants of the bed of Procrustes, to fit a preconceived hypothesis. In opposition to this idea, we may rely on the strong negative evidence, the absence of any vestige or relic, indicating that Reading or Coley was a Roman station.† Finding, as we do, such numerous remains, either of altars, coins, urns, lapidary inscriptions, and other vestiges of that powerful people, in their numerous settlements throughout this Island, the want of such evidence must be deemed almost decisive, that where they are not found, no Roman station has existed. Besides, Horsley and others of our best antiquaries, including one of the most eminent of the present day, sir Richard Colt Hoare,‡ have adduced, we think, conclusive reasons for identifying Silchester as Calleva. But the bishop of Cloyne was misinformed, when he asserted that no Roman antiquities had been discovered at Speen, some have been met with, although it must be admitted not so many as might have been expected from the remains of a Roman *town*. We therefore incline to the opinion that it was not a town, but

* Archæologia, vol. xv., p. 179. † Coates' history of Reading.

‡ Ancient Wiltshire, vol. 2, p. 54.

only a *castra stativa*, or a fortified fixed camp o
We are disposed to acquiesce in the decision bo
Richard Colt Hoare† and Mr. Leman, that the site of
house and the circumjacent grounds, is the spot w
station existed. The admeasurements from the differ
marked in the Itineraries, more exactly correspond
locality than with that of any other. The situatic
manding eminence, with a plentiful supply of water, ar
the requisites which would be selected by the Rom
ground also retains many features indicating remai
trenchments and earth works, particularly the southern a
sides.

Mr. Wyld, moreover, possesses pottery, some
with figures, which have from time to time been dug
grounds, a few specimens so recently as in the las
which we think must be pronounced undoubtedl
Some Roman coins have also been found.‡ In
the above, we are able to point out two or three pl
parish of Speen, where other, apparently Roman
have been observed. In excavating by an old road,
only as a private way to the property of Mr. Lo
village.) for the foundation of houses, much ancient
posed Roman pottery and tiles were thrown up.
these discoveries may assist us in ascertaining the
which the Roman roads reached this district. We h
mentioned that the road from Gloucester and Cirer
proached the present Bath turnpike road, somewh
the 58th mile from London. Within these few
a gravel pit near, an urn with Roman coins
The second road, from Aquæ Solis, (Bath.) havin
a direction from Mildenhall, or Folly Farm, to

* The Romans had their *Castra Stativa*, stationary or permanent camp, summer camp, and *Castra Hiberna*, winter camp.

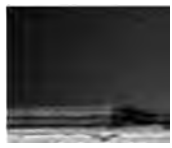
They carried in their expeditions, *Tentoria*, as we learn from Suetonius, Julius Cæsar, who says, "*In expeditionibus Tentoriata et Sectilia porticus ubi*" These were to pave the *Prætorium*, or General's tent, which occupied the encampment.

† Ancient Wiltshire, vol. ii., p. 93.

‡ One of the empress Faustina Augusta, in good preservation, is in the possession of the Rev. Francis Augustus Cox, the reverse, the figure of Diana. Inscription Diana Lucifera. We [illegible] coin to Lucina.

,erhaps entered Spinæ at or near the same point. The other road, that from Streatly, according to the best authorities, went by Hampstead Norris, Long Lane, and Shaw, and attained this parish most probably, through the fordable part of the Lambourn river, near the present bridge.

In digging the foundations of one or two of the houses (forming "Shaw Crescent,") the buildings connected with the silk factory between the London road and Shaw village, and the houses, (now belonging to Mr. Corbould,) on the road side, the workmen encountered a substance having the appearance of an artificial road, the materials of which were so firmly compacted and cemented together, almost to the consistency of a rock, that it was with the utmost difficulty and danger they succeeded in breaking it up. This road was not traced further than was necessary for the purposes of those buildings, but its trending inclined from north-west to south-east. We submit that this might have been the remains of a Roman road, leading to one of the then passes or fords over the Kennet, in the direction for Silchester. It must not be forgotten that the central situation of Newbury and of Speen, rendered them the converging points not only of the Roman *viæ*, but also of the roads, tracts, and streets of the natives. Lysons informs us, that in making the foundation of Newbury bridge, in 1770, some ancient knives, spoons, and English coins were discovered. It is not of importance to our argument, whether any of these were implements before or since the Roman invasion; we use the fact only to strengthen the conjecture that anciently the Kennet had been forded at this spot, and that the old road, either British or Roman, leading to Winchester and Old Sarum, passed over the line of Newbury street, as is stated by Stukely and other antiquaries. If British, it might have been adopted by their invaders. As a further corroboration of this idea, it is deserving of remark, that although part of the town of Newbury, (Northbrook-street,) stands on a solid stratum of peat, yet this street or *via* rests on a body of gravel, to the depth of several feet; and which gravel has the appearance of having been brought there from time to time, in order to form and make firm the road. Cæsar describes the ancient Britons as fortifying their towns



in woods and marshes, in which was collected a great numb of men and cattle; and adds, that when they had entrenche and rendered their woods impenetrable, by a rampart an foss, they called it a town.* We think we are borne out our impression that the site of Newbury had been originall a British town, at least, according to the above definition one. As a corollary to which conjecture, Speen, if consider merely in relation to such settlement of the ancient Briton is on an elevated and commanding ground, little liable surprise, and well calculated to overlook and keep them subjection. On the high authorities which we have quote confirmed by the few remarks and additional evidences whic we have adduced, we may venture to assume that Speen was beyond doubt, the Spinæ of the Romans. Having, as we con ceive, established this location, we have to contend with the more difficult and debatable question, the route hence t Silchester.

In discussing the subject of Roman roads, so immediately in connection with that of ascertaining Roman stations, it must be remembered, that at the period of the invasion of this Islan by Julius Cæsar, the inhabitants used wains and war chariots and consequently that they possessed roads and tracts adapte for wheel carriages. Although, therefore, the Romans in con structing their roads, as much as possible pursued a straigh line from point to point, yet, if in the course of their trac they fell in with a previously existing road of the natives, i may have been expedient to adopt such road, even if it occa sioned some detour, of which several instances occur.† I such case they might, and probably did content themselve with improving such existing roads, without being at the troubl of remodelling them according to the form (a highly-raised road which they otherwise almost universally used. This cir

* "Non fere ex loco oppidum Cassivel[l]auni abesse, silvis, paludibusque munitum, qu satis magnos hominum pecoris[que] numerus convenerat. Oppidum autem Britanni vocan quum silvas impeditas vallo atque fossa munierunt." Cæsar, De Bel. Gal., lib. v.

† The same observation as to their plan, applies equally to their camps. The Roman cam was almost invariably an exact quadrangle, or occasionally, where the ground would not pe mit the former shape, it was extended to an oblong. Where, therefore, we find indication [illegible] we [illegible] many instances of the Romans having encamped in round or irregular [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] that they, for a long[illegible] convenience, occupied [illegible] [illegible].

cumstance will tend to account for many of the breakings off and abrupt terminations, with which the enquirer is perplexed in his attempts to trace these roads, because those of the Aborigines were not of that marked and artificial description which characterised those of their invaders. It seems to be clearly established that there were at least three principal roads used by the Romans, all connecting in the vicinity of Newbury, (then a British town,) from their various towns and stations, towards one of their principal cities, Silchester, (Calleva); but only one of which roads is mentioned in the Iters of Antonine and Richard of Cirencester, being the XIV. of the former, and the XII. of the latter, namely, that from Aquæ Solis, (Bath,) as under:

Antonine.		*Richard.*	
Verlucionem M. P. High Field near (Sandy Lane)	XV.	Verlucione M. P.	XV.
Cunetionem Folly Farm (Mildenhall)	XX.	Cunetione	XX.
Spinas (Speen)	XV.	Spinis	XV.
Callevam (Silchester)	XV.	Callevâ Attrebatum	XV.

Sir Richard Colt Hoare, in a manuscript paper with which he has favoured us, says, "from Mildenhall, the road proceeded to Spinæ or Speen, the third station, and its direct course is not known; it probably passed near Littlecot, where fine Roman pavements were formerly discovered, and have been engraved." The second road, namely, from Durocornovium (Cirencester,) to Spinæ, "which," he adds, "quitted Berkshire at Lambourn Woodlands, and entering Wiltshire near Baydon, proceeded to a Roman station at Nidum, or Wanborough Nithe, where a road from Mildenhall met it. The bishop of Cloyne describes it as pursuing a course from Baydon into Berkshire, "leaving Lambourn and the Sheffords on its



left, and Innholmes and Newtown on its right, crosses turnpike road from Oxford to Hungerford, between the : and 26th milestones, and continues straight, without pas through any village, till it arrives at Wickham: one solitary house, however, known by the name of the Hare and Hou stands directly upon it, entering, as before observed, the sent Bath road, near the 58th mile." The third, we re from the Thames at Streatley, through Aldworth, Hampst Norris, Long Lane, and Shaw.* In the few observations wh we shall offer relative to the road from Spinæ to Silchester, we only hope to throw out some probable conjecture; the ques being involved in much obscurity, we can hardly expect to ar at any positive and definite conclusion.

We much doubt if there ever existed a regular and di Roman road leading from Spinæ to Silchester. We think t in the course of the route, some further *indicia* must have b traced. The roads of the Romans were of that firm and p manent description, raised to the height of 10 or 12 feet, even more, that, if continued during a progress of 14 or miles, in spite of the innovations of civilization, time, the plough, here and there, like angel visits, few and far tween, remains of the indefatigable skill and labour bestow on their construction, must have been discovered;† but hithe the researches of antiquaries and of residents on the l have failed in ascertaining its existence. There is no diffic in tracing the route which such road would have taken. Roman engineers, as we have already intimated, invaria pursued a straight line; the only exception to that rule, w from any peculiar circumstances in the nature of the grou which rendered a deviation imperative or expedient. Tra then our eye over a map, we find that a straight line f Spinæ leads us in the following direction: over Greenl Common, through the upper part of Brimpton and Aldermas

* There is a remarkable encampment not Roman completely commanding this called "Grimsbury Castle," situated in the midst of Fence Wood. In consequence of of the underwood having been cut last year, a great part of this camp was visible.

† The middle part of the road was raised into a terrace, which commanded the adja country, consisted of several strata of sand, gravel, and cement, and was paved with l stones, or, in some places, near the capital, with granite. Gibbon's Decline and Fall, vo p. 82.

ilchester; pursuing nearly the direction of the present existing
, most of which we are inclined to think are old British tracts
streets."

ıe conclusion to which we are therefore disposed to come,
hat the Romans, finding them sufficiently practicable,
ted in their route from Spinæ to Silchester, the roads and
s of the natives, passing the Kennet at the fordable points
Newbury, or lower down towards the Thatcham district.
upon this supposition alone, that we can account for the
ace of any relic of a Roman road. The mound or trench
d Berry's Bank, running north and south over Greenham
mon, and alluded to by the bishop of Cloyne, in the paper
hich we have before referred, is comparatively of very
ern date, and cannot be attributed to the Romans. Or,
pursuing the direct line, they may have availed themselves
the British roads, to strike into their own road (Iter V.
he Itineraries) leading from Winchester (Venta Belgarum) to
hester.

peen comprehends many manors, respecting which, and
r various possessors, we cannot follow a more accurate
le than Lysons, whose information on this subject we
l transcribe:—"From a very early period there were two
cipal manors in this parish,—Church-Spene and Wood-
ne. Church-Spene, when the Norman survey was taken,
nged to Humphrey Vis de Lou; in the 13th century it
in the Despencers; afterwards, successively in the families
Elford and Mountenеye. In 1400, this manor was granted
ohn Campe, who died seised of it in 1441. In the reign
dward IV., it was in the family of Rogers, from whom it
ed, by female descent, to sir William Essex, who, with his
gave it to king Henry VIII., in 1543." It is more than
able that the manor of Church-Speen was afterwards
ted to Thomas Dolman, at the same time that he received
manors of Shaw and Speenhamland, as it afterwards becam e
d in the Andrews family, by whom it was sold to the
William Brummell, esq.; after his death, the late John
, esq., purchased it, with other estates, of the trustees of
Brummell. "The manor of Wood-Spene belonged to
Ashalls, earls of Pembroke; from them it descended



with other estates, and the earl marshal's staff, to Thor Brotherton, earl of Norfolk, who gave it to king Edward I in 1332. The same year the king granted it to his relat William de Bohun, afterwards earl of Northampton. On a p tition of the estates of the Bohuns, it came again to the cro but was given, in 1483, by king Richard III. to Edward S ford, duke of Buckingham, as being descended from that fam on the duke's attainder, it became again vested in the cro This manor was granted in 1565, to John Baptist de Castill his son, sir Francis, sold it, in 1630, to the trustees of sir Will Craven, from whom it descended to the present proprietor, t earl of Craven."

"The manor of Speenhamland was anciently in the Clar earls of Gloucester, from whom it passed successively, by fem heirs, to the Despencers, Beauchamps, and Nevilles. Havi been many years in the crown, it was granted by queen Eli beth to Thomas Crompton: it afterwards became the proper of the Bohuns; and having passed by the same title as t neighbouring manor of Shaw, belonged to sir Joseph Andrew baronet." It is now the property of the rev. doctor Penro "Marsh Benham, Benham Valence, and Bagnor, are in t parish. The manor of Benham Valence, which at an earl period had been in the families of Camvil and Wake, took name from William de Valence, earl of Pembroke, to wh king Henry III. granted it in 1250. In the year 1340, passed, with the title of earl of Pembroke, by female desce to Lawrence, lord Hastings. Sir William Essex, who acqui it by marriage with the heiress of Rogers, gave the manor a park to king Henry VIII., in 1512. It is probable that th were not long afterwards granted to sir Walter Mildmay, it appears that he surrendered them to the crown in 15 Queen Elizabeth gave Benham Valence, with Wood-Spene, John Baptist de Castillon, in 1565, for his faithful services her in her troubles. His son, sir Francis, sold it in 1630, the ancestors of the present proprietor, the earl of Cra This manor was held by grand serjeanty, by the service keeping the door of the king's chamber. The manor of Bag which belonged to the priory of Poghly, is now vested in dean and chapter of Westminster, to whom it was given

king Henry VIII., in exchange for some lands which now form part of St. James's Park."

Benham Place, a mansion of the Ionic order, was built in 1775, by lord Craven, the grandfather of the present earl. Brown was the architect, but lady Craven, (late the Margravine of Anspach,) is supposed much to have contributed, by her taste and judgment, to the elegance and the convenient internal arrangement of the mansion. The park is prettily situated, being bounded on the south by the Kennet, which, in front of the house, is expanded to a fine sheet of water; but the estate and domain are inconsiderable. It ultimately became the private property of the Margravine. Her husband, the Margrave of Anspach, on his surrendering his German dominions to the king of Prussia, retired to England, and purchased this mansion, which he continued to occupy as a country residence, until his death, in 1806. He demised it to the Margravine, on whose death it became, under her will, the property of her youngest son, the honourable Richard Keppel Craven.

Speen-Hill, from the beauty and salubrity of its situation, possesses many agreeable residences. We have more than once had occasion to allude to Mr. Wyld's, which stands perhaps on the choicest spot of the whole district. Goldwell House, also, the seat of Frederick Page, esq., though not large, yet from the extensive and valuable library, the collection of pictures and objects of taste and virtu which it contains, and the pleasing arrangement of the grounds, is well deserving of attention.

The living of Speen is a vicarage, of which the bishop of Salisbury is the patron. The great tithes, which were given by William Marshall, earl of Pembroke, to the knights hospitallers, now belong to the See of Salisbury. Mrs. Barker is the present lessee under the bishop. The Church, dedicated to St. Mary, has not many pretensions to architectural beauty or great antiquity; it appears to be of the style of building of about the 14th or 15th century. While lately repairing the Church, some old carved wainscoting of much beauty was discovered, which has been appropriated to a reading desk. We are not apprised that any of the former incumbents have been men of particular note or distinction. This remark is, in a great degree, sanctioned by a no less authority than one of

the incumbents himself. The then vicar, Mr. Shephard, in his letter of reply to Mr. More's Berkshire Queries, after mentioning that a sermon had been printed by his predecessor Standen, adds, it "is the only publication I have ever heard of, either by him, or any other vicar of Speen." The first minister whose name appears in the register, is that of the rev. Richard Watts, who died in 1636: his successor is not known. The rev Joseph Guy was instituted in 1670, and died in 1706. The rev. Robert Sandiland, the next vicar, died in 1726. He was followed by the eccentric Joseph Standen, whom we have in a former part of this work brought under the notice of our readers. On the death of Mr. Standen the rev. Thomas Shephard was instituted; who, resigning in 1780, his son-in-law, the rev. Charles Henry Parry was presented to the vicarage. On the death of the latter, in 1788, Mr. Shephard was a second time the vicar; after his death in 1796, the rev. Edward Houlditch possessed the living; that gentleman having surrendered the incumbency, the rev. Henry William Majendie, the present vicar, was inducted in 1819.

In this Church is an altar tomb, with the effigy in armour, of John Baptist Castillion, a Piedmontese, who died in 1597; and a monument to the wife of his son, sir Francis, dame Elizabeth Castillion, who died in child-bed, in 1603. She is represented habited in a farthingale and flowered gown, and veil, almost covering the body. The aisle in which are the tombs of the Castillions, was granted to that family on payment of the yearly sum of ten shillings: the proprietor of Benham still continues, or is subject to pay, this annual sum.

Round the Castillion monument is this inscription:—

hic · iacet · io : baptist · castilion · armiger · quondam · dominus · de benham · in · comitatu · berk · qui · obiit · xii · febr · a · dni · 1597

Over the effigy of the lady is inscribed the following:

[illegible]

There is also a memorial to dame Theodosia Craven, wife of sir Anthony Craven, of Sparsholt, Berks, and to four of their children; but this is nearly obliterated or concealed.

Ashmole also mentions, that "near the north wall of the chancel lyes a gravestone, bearing a plate of brass, with the figure of a priest in his vestments, holding a chalice and pix between his hands; out of his mouth issues this scroll:"—

Adhesit anima mea post te me susepit dextra tua
Jhesu mercy, graunt mercy.

Under his feet this inscription;—

Of your charity pray for the
soule of Sir John Foster, some-
time parson of Upway, and vicar
of this church, who departed the
second day of May, in the yere
of our Lord God 1533,
on whose soule Jhesu have
mercy. Amen.

From the other monuments we have selected the following, as most entitled to notice:—

On a white marble slab.

In Memoriam
Viri reverendi
THOMÆ SHEPHARD, A.M.
Qui per multos Annos in hâc Ecclesiâ
Beati Christi Religionem
Egregiâ Fide excoluit,
Vitâque exornavit
Tam Pietate, quam Doctrinâ præstans.
In officiis ergâ Deum et Vicinos
Nunquam non versatus,
Nec Mortis Adventum timuit,
Nec Stimulum sensit.
Vitam, ad extremum gravi Dolore exacerbatam,
Adeò tranquillè et constanter
Deo optimo reddidit,
Ut Promissis Evangelii fieto
Mors ei Vitæ Janua esse videretur.
Obiit Die Septembris vicesimo septimo,
Anno Ætatis octogesimo,
Salutis
MDCCXCVI.



On a plain white marble monument.

Near this place are deposited the remains of
The Rev. CHARLES HENRY PARRY, LL.B.
late Vicar of this Parish,
who died the 11th of December, 1788,
In the 33rd Year of his Age.
To whose Memory
She, who best knew his amiableness of disposition
and rectitude of mind,
Sensibly feeling the temporary Suspension
of a most sincere and affectionate friendship,
Inscribes this Marble.

An elegant statuary marble monument, comprising a female figure in a kneeling attitude, holding an urn, on which are inscribed the letters "T. W., aged 29;" and underneath, "UNTO THEE, O GOD." Below is a head, in basso relievo, entwined by a wreath of fruit. Surmounted above the whole is another urn, with the initials "T. W., aged 78." Inscribed,

To the Memory
of
THOMAS WALD, Esq.
of this Place,
who died the 20th of May, 1789
And of
THOMAS WALD, Esq.
his eldest Son,
who died the 16th of September, 1789
[illegible]
[illegible]

On a white marble slab, over a finely-executed piece of sculpture, by Canova, is the following memorial:

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF
THE LATE CONSTANTIA AND OF MRS
THE MARGRAVE OF ANSPACH
[illegible]
WHO DIED THE 15TH JANUARY 1805
AGED SIXTY NINE YEARS
AND ELEVEN MONTHS

On a beautiful white marble monument, with a head of the deceased, carved in basso relievo.

IN A VAULT NEAR THIS PLACE ARE DEPOSITED THE REMAINS OF
WILLIAM BRINTON, ESQ., LATE OF SPEEN-HILL, IN THIS PARISH;
DURING A RESIDENCE OF FIFTY YEARS IN THE ISLAND OF ANTIGUA,
HE DISCHARGED MANY IMPORTANT PUBLIC DUTIES WITH EQUAL CREDIT TO HIMSELF
AND ADVANTAGE TO THE COMMUNITY; AND LEAVING BEHIND HIM THERE A CHARACTER
MARKED WITH UNBENDING RECTITUDE OF PRINCIPLE, AND STRICT INTEGRITY OF CONDUCT,
HE RETURNED TO PASS THE REMAINDER OF HIS DAYS IN HIS NATIVE COUNTRY,
WHERE, ON THE 31ST OF OCTOBER, 1823, HE DEPARTED THIS LIFE, AGED 74 YEARS,
UNIVERSALLY RESPECTED AND LAMENTED.
THIS MONUMENT IS ERECTED BY HIS ONLY DAUGHTER AND SOLE SURVIVING RELATIVE,
AS A MEMORIAL OF HER VENERATION FOR HIS MANY EXCELLENCES,
AND OF HER GRIEF FOR THE LOSS OF A BELOVED AND MOST AFFECTIONATE PARENT.

The following is a copy of an epitaph, now almost obliterated, in Speen churchyard, and which, admired for its simple pathos, has been handed to us for insertion.

In memory of JOHN MATTHEWS, of Donnington, Berks, whose worth and fidelity would have conferred honor on any station. Ob. June 16, 1779, Et. 31.

"When Heaven with equal eyes our quick'ning dust
Shall view, and judge the bad and praise the just:
His humble merits may perhaps find room,
Where kings shall wish, but wish in vain, to come."

Three of the above monuments particularly merit attention, being from the chisels of the celebrated sculptors, Bacon, Canova, and Chantry. That by Canova was brought from Italy by the late Margravine of Anspach: although the design may be deemed somewhat trite, a female weeping over an urn, yet the expression of grief in the countenance, the formation of the hands, and the arrangement of the drapery, are exceedingly beautiful. It is said that the portrait of the figure is that of the Margravine herself. The monument to the Mr. Wylds, is the work of the elder Bacon; and that to Mr. Brinton, of Chantry.

In the open space in Speenhamland, were formerly standing some dwelling-houses, called "The Chapel," from which appellation it may be inferred, that a building, in some way connected with or used as a religious house, had been there.



It might have been a small chantry, dissolved after the Reformation; not the slightest evidence or trace, however, of any religious foundation, beyond the above designation, at present exists.*

In Speenhamland is an elegant Chapel of Ease, called "St. Mary's," built of freestone, in the pointed or lancet Gothic style; the portico of which, modelled after that of the Cathedral of Peterborough, is deservedly admired. Respecting the erection of this Chapel, we have been furnished, from an authentic quarter, with the following statement. "In consequence of the inadequacy of the Church at Speen, to afford accommodation for the increased population of the parish, it was determined to build a Chapel of Ease at Speenhamland. The building was commenced on the 31st of July, 1829, under the direction of Mr. Savage, architect, and was completed June 4th, 1831, and consecrated August 16th, 1831. The cost of the building may be estimated at about £7,000; the whole of which sum, with the exception of about £330, raised by rate, was the result of voluntary contributions. The Chapel accommodates about 1,000 sittings, of which 200 are free."

The handsome painted window to the south, was presented by the vicar, Mr. Majendie. To the erection and embellishment of this Chapel, another gentleman of Speen, to whom it is unnecessary more pointedly to allude, than by observing that he is alike distinguished for taste and liberality, was also a most munificent contributor.

It may be regretted that a more elevated spot could not have been conveniently selected. Much of the architectural proportion and beauty is lost or diminished, by the low and unfavourable situation in which the building stands.

* As a confirmation of this fact, it may be stated, that in the description of property in old deeds, we frequently meet with the following, relating to houses in Newbury: "Which Messuage hath been sometime part of the dissolved Chantries, called 'Wyntall's Chantry,' and 'Our Lady's Chantry.'" These chantries were small endowments, unconnected, as Burnet observes, with any priests who enjoyed pensions for saying mass for the souls of those who founded them. Although they had been partially sacrificed to Henry VIII, yet [illegible] were finally destroyed by the [illegible] in the first year of the reign of Edward VI. [illegible] for giving the chantries to the king, by which they were sold. This measure was strongly [illegible] by Latimer, who, when [illegible] to establish boys were of age, being [illegible] he was [illegible] years [illegible] Notes, vol. [illegible]



The following is an account of the Bequests to the poor of Speen.

"John Sheppard of Benham, by will, bearing date the 27th day of May, 1713, gave the sum of £20 of lawful money of Great Britain, to the churchwardens and overseers of the poor, to be put out at interest for the benefit of such poor persons who do not nor shall receive alms; and the interest to be so distributed at Christmas, annually.

The rev. Robert Sandilands, late vicar of Speen, by will, dated 12th of April, 1727, gave £10 to the minister and churchwardens to be placed out to interest, and the interest thereof to be given in bread annually, to poor housekeepers not receiving parish relief.

Mr. John Webb, citizen and clothworker of London, by will, bearing date 10th of March, 1697, gave to the minister and churchwardens of Speen, a rent charge of £8 (issuing out of lands in the parish, and now in the possession of Richard Townsend, Esq.,) on Christmas day, yearly, for the apprenticing of two boys or girls, born in the said parish; he also gave one other rent charge issuing out of the same lands, of twenty shillings annually, to be spent in a collation for the said minister and churchwardens.

John Sheppard of Church-Speen also gave £40 to the poor of Speen, £20 of which has been lent and lost.

Mr. Green gave by will, 8s. a year to the poor of Speenhamland.

Mr. Waldron gave 5s. a year to the poor of Benham.

The duke of Chandos gave 50s. a year to five parishioners who are inhabitants. Also 40s. a year from the Shaw Estate, to the poor of Speenhamland only. Also a further demand on the same estate, by decree of the Rolls' Court.

Mr. Thomas Barksdale gave one acre of land, the rent to pay for a Sermon at Speen Church, on Easter Tuesday: it is understood that this land is laid with the vicar's allotment.

With the several sums left by John Sheppard of Speen, John Sheppard of Benham, and the rev. Robert Sandilands, 1A. 3R. 22P. of land was purchased of John Normandon, in the year 1757, in Horsepool Field; but at the inclosure,



1A. 2R. 17P. was given instead, in Clay Pit Field, and bounded as follows: east, by the turnpike road from Newbury to Oxford; south, by Speenhamland almshouse land; west, by Saint Bartholomew's hospital land; north, by the Donnington hospital land; and was let in 1779 and 1787, for £2 19s. This land was sold in 1788, for £100 stock in the 3 per cents reduced. together with the Widows' land.

Ann Watts, by will, dated 13th of May, 1664, gave £160 to buy a piece of land for the maintenance of two poor widows in the liberty of Speenhamland, during their lives; the presentation rests in the minister and the collectors of the poor, and six others of the liberty of Speenhamland that pay most collection. Land was purchased in 1668, of John Normanton, containing 4A. OR. 19P., and was let in 1783 at £7 12s.; and in 1787, at £10 11s. Upon the enclosure, land described as follows, was allotted for the widows' land: bounded east by the Oxford road; south, by Mr. Payton's land; west, by Newbury corporation land; north, by land belonging to Speen poor; and was in measure 4A. OR. 19P. In the year 1780, by a deed of trust, these lands were conveyed by the rev. Thomas Sheppard and William Le Marchant, esq., (the only surviving trustees,) to the rev. Charles Henry Parry, vicar of Speen, and have since been re-sold to John Bebb, esq., of Donnington Grove. The widows have also land in the parish of Kintbury, called "Shewards," which was bought the 1st of June, 1668, (in the reign of Charles I.) of Richard Hill of Benham, and contains by estimation, 4A. 3R. 12P., and was let in 1787, at £3. per annum."

A well, about two hundred yards above the Church, is remarkable for a fine and distinct echo. It is called "Our Lady's Well," most probably in reference to the Church having been dedicated to the virgin. In earlier ages, wells were frequently a favourite object of superstitious veneration, and it is probable that an opinion prevailed of a sacred connexion or influence subsisting between the Church and the well. At the present day, the water is deemed to possess some peculiar healing qualities, and the spot is not even now wholly divested of some remains or impressions of its once sacred character. Speen Moor was enclosed by an Act of Parliament passed in

contained in a pamphlet, entitled, "The Life of Jack of Newbury;" we have therefore abstained from extracting any of the very improbable statements and anecdotes which are to be found in that work. Nevertheless, it is obvious that he was a distinguished man and a loyal and wealthy subject. The tradition of his having entertained at his house in Newbury, Henry VIII. and his queen, Catherine of Arragon, is deserving of credit. The site of the house of "The Jack of Newbury," is supposed to be partly where the Inn of that sign stands, and that his workshops extended to the Marsh. In pulling down some of these and contiguous buildings, very ancient carvings in oak have

Thoughe Fyre and Pyke dyd Wond'rous thynges
More wonders stylle dyd wee
And ev'ry Tonngue wythe rapture syngs
Of the Laddes of Newberrie

The Bonnie Laddes of Westmorelande
And the Chesshyre Laddes were there
Wythe Glee theye took theyre Bovvs in hande
And wythe shoutes dysturb'd the Ayre
Awaye theye sent the Greye Goose Wynge
Eche Kylle'd his twoe or three
Yet none soe loude wythe fame dyd rynge
As the Laddes of Newberrie

Theye swore to scayle the Mountayne bolde
Where some in vayne hadde try'de
That theyre Toes myghte take the better holde
Theyre Bootes theye caste asyde
Barefooted soone theye reach'd the hyghte
Twas a gudelie syte to see
Howe fast the Scottes were putte to flyghte
By the Laddes of Newberrie

Lord Stanlie sawe wythe muche delyghte
And loude was herde to saye
Eche oughte by Jove to be a Knyghte
For to theme wee owe the Daye
The Chesshyre Laddes began the route
And the Kendall Boys soe free
But none of theme all have foughte more stoute
Than the Laddes of Newberrie

Nowe God pres'rve our Lord the Kynge
Who travaill's farre in Frannce
And lette us all of Bovvmen synge
Whyle rounde our Cuppes wee Daunce
The Chesshyre Laddes were briske and brave
And the Kendall Laddes as free
But none surpass'd or I'm a Knave
The Laddes of Newberrie."

been discovered, apparently having been parts of ornamental wainscotings and fireplaces.*

The celebrated St. John, the friend of Swift, who had intermarried with a descendant of Winchcombe, resided at Bucklebury House. Swift visited him there, and in the journal to Stella, in the letter dated 19th July, 1711, gives the following pleasing account of the occupations of his friend, at that time the secretary of state: "Mr. Secretary was a perfect country gentleman at Bucklebury, he smoked tobacco with one or two neighbours, he enquired after the wheat in such a field, he went to visit his hounds, and knew all their names; he and his lady saw me to my chamber just in the country fashion. His house is in the midst of near three thousand pounds a year he had by his lady, who is descended from Jack of Newbury, of whom books and ballads are written; and there is an old picture of him in the room. She is a great favourite of mine."

Sir Thomas Dolman erected Shaw House in the reign of Elizabeth, and tradition says, for some years continued to carry on his clothing manufactory there. This description of manufactory at Newbury, is now entirely decayed.

The town has frequently been honoured by royal visits. Queen Elizabeth was there in 1568. Charles II. after his restoration, is said to have visited the town, and to have ridden over the ground on which the two battles of Newbury had been fought; in the second of which, it will be recollected, that he was present. It is also alleged that the person who had been mayor of the town, during the stay of Charles and his father previous to the second battle, presented a petition to the king, for remuneration of the expenses which the petitioner had on that occasion incurred, in entertaining and providing for the royal suite; but the applicant, like most others under similar circumstances, obtained no redress.

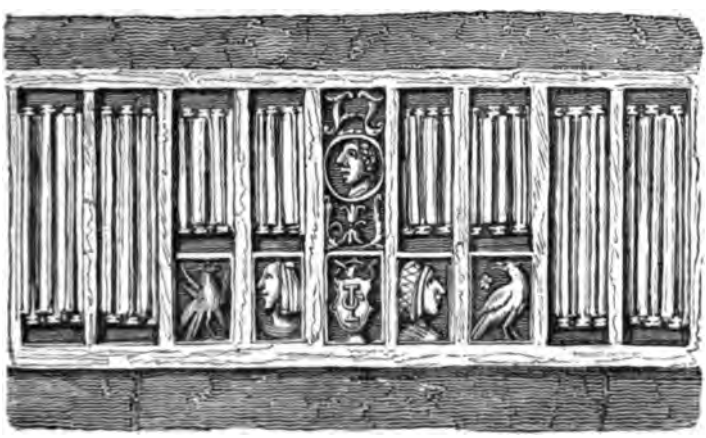
Peat Deposit.

A stratum of peat is found near Newbury, pervading the banks of the Kennet. It is from about a quarter to half a mile wide, and extends in length for many miles. The depth varies from one foot to eight or nine; the colour is black, or rather

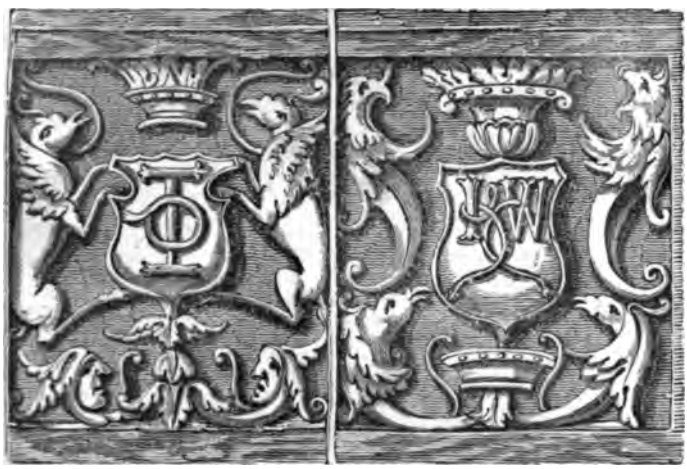
* We shall insert four engravings of ancient carving, from houses in Newbury, supposed formerly to have belonged to John Winchcombe, alias, "Jack of Newbury."



Antique Carving in Newbury.



Antique Carving in Newbury.



Antique Carving in Newbury.

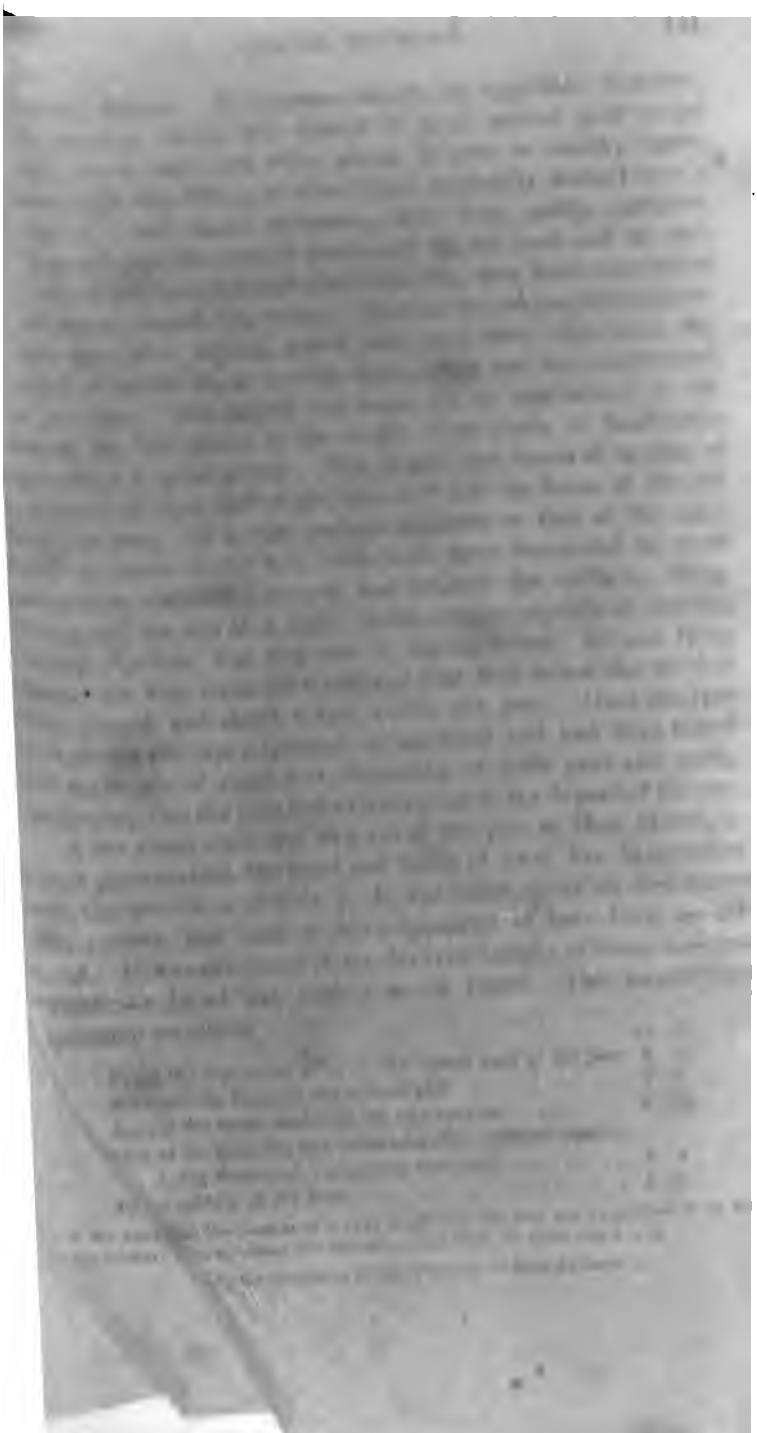


Antique Carving in Newbury.











blackish brown. It consists chiefly of vegetable deposits; the branches, twigs, and leaves of trees, mixed with sedgy grass, weeds, and such other plants as grow in marshy lands; these, with the debris of water, have gradually formed into a mass of a soft soapy substance, free from gritty particles. Large oaks are discovered enveloped in the peat, and in such a state of preservation and hardness, that they have been sawed out and converted into tables. Besides the oak, are distinguishable the alder, willow, hazel, and some firs; also trees, the wood of which has a reddish appearance and are conjectured to be yews. The nearer the trees lie to the surface of the earth, the less sound is the wood. The shells of hazel nuts are found in great plenty. The heads and bones of horses, of a variety of deer, and of the beaver;* and the horns of the red deer or stag, (of a size perhaps superior to that of the elk,) and the tusks of the wild boar, have been discovered in great quantities, embedded several feet beneath the surface. Many years ago, an urn of a light brown colour, capable of holding above a gallon, was dug out of Speen Moor. It was lying about ten feet from the river, and four feet below the level of the ground, and about a foot within the peat. Over the spot where the urn was deposited, an artificial hill had been raised of the height of eight feet, consisting of both peat and earth, indicating that the peat had existed prior to the deposit of the urn.

A few years since was dug out of the peat in Ham Marsh, in good preservation, the head and horns of what has been called the Caledonian or wild ox.† It was found about six feet below the surface, and near to what appeared to have been an old road. It was enveloped in the decayed boughs of trees, amongst which the hazel was readily to be found. This magnificent specimen measures

	Ft.	In.
From the top of the head to the lower part of the jaw	2	5½
Between the horns in the widest part	3	0
Across the head, just over the eye sockets	0	12½
Girt of the horn (as now remaining, the external coating being destroyed,) adjoining the skull	1	4
In the middle of the horn	0	11

* We have seen the remains of a head taken from the peat and conjectured to be that of the beaver; from the shape and strength of the teeth, we think that it is so.

† In the possession of Mr. Padbury, of Speenhamland.

It may here be noticed, that in the "Turbaries," in the department of the Somme, in France, have likewise been found the remains of oxen, far surpassing in magnitude our present races, and of animals similar to those which we have just enumerated.

In the year 1825, a spear head, about seven inches in length and an inch and a half in width, was discovered by the workmen cutting peat in the meadows (under Speen Hill,) of Edward Brice Bunny, esq. It was lying in a perpendicular position, seven feet below the surface, and three and a half feet beneath the peat, and within about 20 yards of the river Kennet.



In the following year was dug from the same fields, another spear head, larger, measuring ten inches and a quarter in length, and about two inches and three quarters in breadth. The latter was found in an horizontal position, about six feet from the surface, and rather more than three feet deep in the peat, and about 50 yards from the river.



The smaller one has on each side of the root of the blade, a hole drilled, for what use it is difficult to conjecture; whether to append some ensign, or for the purpose of being projected from a staff against the enemy and of being drawn back by a cord affixed. The latter mode of warfare was used, we believe, by the ancient Britons. This blade is of rather a more skilful manufacture than the larger one. The metal of each is nearly similar, and seems to be a compound of copper and tin, from which circumstance it may be inferred that they were manufactured by the ancient Britons. The well

1737, and the remainder of the parish, excepting the hamlet of Bagnor, was enclosed by an Act passed in 1779. By this latter Act, allotments of land were assigned to the impropriator in lieu of the great tithes of the whole parish, including those of the hamlet of Bagnor; and to the vicar, in lieu of tithes of the new inclosures, and a small rent charge in lieu of the vicarial tithes on the old inclosures. The following particulars, which have been sent to us, relating to the hamlet of Bagnor, we think deserving of notice: "This place, from its stream of water, the Lambourn river, possessed formerly, considerable manufactories. There were two large Paper Mills, one now standing, and the other was on the site of the Cascade in Donnington Grove park; the latter was pulled down by the late Mr. Brummell. There was formerly a large Fulling Mill, which is said to have belonged to the Jack of Newbury; and is supposed to have been where the present Corn Mill stands. The waste ground adjoining this mill is called the "Rack Marsh," and so late as in the end of the last century, the old posts, which formed the frame-work for drying the cloth, were observable. The Winterbourn stream here runs into the Lambourn river. From the nature of the ground, it is probable that the whole or the greater part of this district was, in the time of the early Britons, under water, forming a small inland lake. In corroboration of this opinion, it may be stated, that many years ago, some labourers, who were digging a ditch to form the boundary of a cottage garden, struck their tools against a hard substance; which proved to be a boat or canoe of oak, cut or scooped out of the solid trunk. It measured in length from eight to nine feet, and in breadth from four to five feet; the sides were nearly entire.* About a furlong above this spot, at the top of a field called "The Park Field," some men, who about forty years ago were employed in throwing up the ditch which indicates the boundary of the parishes of Speen and Shaw, discovered a great quantity of old coin, of the reigns of Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I. These coins,

* An antique canoe, of a similar character, was lately dug out of the earth, at North Stoke, near Arundel, Sussex, on an estate belonging to the earl of Egremont. This curious piece of antiquity was supposed to have been buried for at least eight centuries. It measured thirty-five feet long, and four feet eight inches in breadth; and appears to have been formed from one solid tree. It is deposited in the British Museum.

no doubt, had been concealed during the civil wars, and probably at the time when the royalist and parliamentary forces were in the occupation of this district. The Manor House of Bagnor was originally a high and stately building, but a former proprietor reduced it one story."

SHAW CUM DONNINGTON.

This parish adjoins that of Speen on the north side, and is in the hundred of Faircross. It contains about 600 inhabitants, and comprises two manors, that of Shaw and that of Donnington castle. The former belonged, in the thirteenth century, to the family of Columbers or De Columbarüs, from whom it came to the Bassets of Drayton. After this, but by what means is not known, it became vested in the crown. By a grant dated 27th of July, fourth and fifth of Philip and Mary, (1557 and 1558,) the manor and fishery of Shaw were granted by the crown "to Thomas Doleman of Newbery, in the county of Berks, Clothmaker." In 1581, the present mansion, Shaw Place, was completed by a Thomas Dolman, whether he was the original grantee, or a son, is uncertain, but from the interval, upwards of 20 years, and other circumstances, we are disposed to conjecture that it was the latter. Mr. Dolman served the office of sheriff for Berks, in 1588, and was knighted. We can find no account of his death. A sir Thomas Dolman, a descendant, died in 1697, at the age of 77. His sons, sir Humphrey Dolman, died in 1687, and sir Thomas Dolman, in 1711, and both are interred in Shaw Church. Subsequently the mansion and estate became the property and residence of John Talbot, esq., who had married Dorothy, the niece and heiress-at-law of sir Thomas Dolman. Some years afterwards, John Talbot and his wife, with their eldest son Lewis Dolman Talbot, sold the estate to James I. duke of Chandos, who died in 1741 or 2. After his death, the estate was enjoyed by his widow and third wife, Lydia Catherine, dowager duchess of Chandos, till her death in 1750; she was also buried in the church. In 1751, Henry II. duke of Chandos, and the trustees of the will of his father duke James, conveyed the property to Joseph Andrews, Esq., who, it is believed, had





SHAW HOUSE,
East View.



SHAW HOUSE,
East View.





held for many years the important and lucrative appointment of paymaster of the forces for Scotland. His son, sir Joseph Andrews, was created a baronet in 1766, and died at Shaw Place, in December, 1800. Lysons, in speaking of him, says that he "was distinguished for his active benevolence, as the zealous promoter of every institution which had for its object either public utility, or the relief of individual distress." He was succeeded in his title and estates by his nephew, the late sir Joseph Andrews, who dying a bachelor, in February, 1822, the baronetcy became extinct. Under the will of her uncle, the only sister of the late sir Joseph Andrews, Mrs. Hunt, widow of Charles Henry Hunt, esq., of Stratford-on-Avon, succeeded to the inheritance, and thereupon re-assumed her family name of Andrews. This lady enjoyed the property only a few months, dying at Shaw in the following July. On her death, the estate devolved on her cousin, the rev. doctor Penrose, the present possessor. Shaw House is esteemed a fine specimen of the Elizabethan style of architecture. It is said to have been honoured by more than one royal visit in the time of the Dolmans; and a state bed is still preserved, which was prepared for the reception of queen Anne. The importance of this house, during the civil wars of Charles, has, in our account of the battles of Newbury, been fully noticed. There are, or rather were, about the mansion, several inscriptions, both in Latin and Greek. The following, in Greek capitals, over the front porch, remains:

ΦΘΟΝΕΡΟΣ ΜΗΔΕΙΣ ΕΙΣΙΤΩ

Also this Latin couplet, over the window, above the porch:

"Edentulus vescentium dentibus invidet
Et oculos caprearum talpa contemnit."

These inscriptions, which are, apparently, coeval with the building, rather confirm our conjecture that the house was built by the son of the original grantee. It would scarcely have been consistent with the unlettered character of the "Cloth-maker" of Newbury, to embellish his mansion with Greek and Latin inscriptions; but his more educated son might have indulged in such a display of classic erudition.

The manor and honour of Donnington Castle were held jointly. In a former part of this work we have given an account of some of the owners of the castle; it will be recollected that we stated that the Puckers were the possessors at the time of the civil wars. Having since been furnished with an accurate pedigree of the Winchcombe family, it appears that Lysons, from whom we derived the statement, was wrong in saying that during those wars the castle belonged to the Packers. At that period, it was in the possession of the Winchcombe family: Henry Winchcombe, a descendant of the Jack of Newbury, died seized of this and other property in Berkshire, in 1643. He had married the Lady Frances Howard, eldest daughter of Thomas Howard, earl of Berkshire, viscount Andover, and baron Howard of Charlton. Henry Winchcombe, the eldest and only son of this marriage, was created a baronet by Charles II., in 1661; probably as some honorary compensation for the injury which his property and estates had sustained, during the siege of Donnington Castle. He died in 1703, leaving three daughters, co-heiresses. Frances, the eldest, was, as we have before observed, married to the celebrated Henry St. John, viscount Bolingbroke; the marriage took place in 1700, and she, having turned devotee, perhaps from the neglect and inconstancy of her husband, died, it is believed, in France, in 1718, without leaving any issue.* Elizabeth, the second daughter, died unmarried; she appears to have fallen prematurely, a victim to some epidemic disease. Her untimely fate is beautifully alluded to by Phillips, in his poem, intitled "Cider," in the following lines:

"Such heats prevail'd, when fair Eliza, last
Of Winchcomb's name (next thee in blood and worth
O fairest St. John!) left this toilsome world
In beauty's prime, and sadden'd all the year;
Nor could her virtues, nor repeated vows
Of thousand lovers, the relentless hand
Of death arrest; she with the vulgar fell
Only distinguished by this humble verse."

* Lord Bolingbroke during his exile in France, had, previous to the death of his wife, formed a liaison with Mary Clara de Champs de Maresolly, Marchioness de Villette, a widow with several children; from her age, 52, it may be inferred that Bolingbroke was fascinated by her elegant manners, and brilliant powers of conversation, rather than by her personal charms, and that the attachment was in the first instance more of a platonic character; however that may have been, it is supposed that they were married at Aix la Chapelle, in May, 1720.

The third and youngest daughter, married at Bucklebury, February 27th, 1699, Robert Packer, of Shillingford. It is therefore obvious that the Packers were not possessed of the manor and honour of Donnington, until many years after the civil wars. Winchcombe Howard Packer, the eldest son of this marriage, resided at Donnington Castle House, (by whom or his father, probably, the modern house was built,) and was one of the members for the county. His sister married the celebrated David Hartley, M.A. and M.D. of Bath, of whom, Mr. Hartley, the now owner of the domain, is the great grandson.

It may strike our readers as a singular coincidence, that the mansions of two descendants from the clothiers of Newbury, should each have held so conspicuous a position in the civil wars of Charles. Although it may be assumed that both the families of Winchcombe and Dolman were royalists, yet it does not appear that either of them took an active or prominent part in those commotions. With respect to sir Thomas Dolman, this may be attributed to his youth, he having been, when the the civil wars broke out, scarcely of age. Henry Winchcombe, who, as we have stated had married the lady Frances Howard, died in 1643, leaving his son, a minor. These circumstances sufficiently account for what otherwise would seem strange, that the two representatives of such influential families, should have escaped being personally involved in those intestine troubles.

Besides the castle and the house underneath, in this division of the parish, stand some residences deserving of notice. Donnington Priory, which was built in 1570, by a Mr. Cowslade, is said to be on the site of an ancient religious house, whence it has received its present designation. Whether it was part of the possessions of the ancient abbot and convent of Waverley, we leave to conjecture; but that such religious foundation possessed considerable estates in this parish, appears by the taxation of pope Nicholas, and is mentioned by Lysons, although no trace of such property is now extant. Donnington Grove, an elegant modern structure in the gothic style, was built at a great expense by Mr. Petit Andrews, (the father of the late sir Joseph Andrews,) who sold it to Mr. Brummell; it now belongs to and is the residence of Mrs. Bebb, the widow



of the late John Bebb, esq. Mr. Bebb purchased the property of Mr. Brummell's trustees, and was for many years a constant occupant of this mansion. The Lambourn river, is, in front of the house, expanded to a fine sheet of water, in the centre of which are some beautifully wooded islands, affording a safe retreat to the numerous wild fowl which enliven the scene. The Lambourn, taking its rise near the town of that name, flows through this parish; and forms not only an agreeable feature in the landscape, but affords also a source of profit, from its numerous mills; and of amusement, from its plentiful supply of fish. It is commemorated by Joshua Sylvester, an old poet, known as the translator of the poem of Du Bartas, intitled, "His First Week, or Birth of the World: Wherein, in Seven dayes the glorious Worke of the Creation is divinely handled." In "The third day of the first week" of this poem, the translator introduces the following lines:

"And little Lambes-Bovrn, though thou match not Lera,
Nor hadst the Honor of Du Bartas Verse;
If mine haue any, Thou must needs partake,
Both for thine Owne, and for thine Owners sake;
Whose kind excesses thee do neerely touch,
That Yeerely for them Thou doost weepe so much,
All Summer-long (while all thy Sisters shrinke)
That of thy teares a million daily drinke;
Besides thy Waast, which then in haste doth run
To wash the feet of Chaucer's Donnington:
But (while the rest are full unto the top)
All Winter-long, Thou never show'st a drop,
Nor send'st a doit of need-less subsidie,
To cramm the Kennet's Want-less Treasurie,
Before her Store be spent, and Springs be staid:
Then, then alone Thou lendst a liberall Aid;
Teaching thy wealthy Neighbours (Mine, of late)
How, When, and Where to right-participate
Their streams of Comfort, to the poore that pine,
And not to greaz still the too greazy Swine:
Neither for fame, nor forme (when others doo)
To giue a Morsel, or a Mite or two;
But seuerally, and of a selfly motion,
When others miss, to giue the most devotion."

This river is said to possess the peculiarity of being higher in the Summer than in the Winter; a characteristic noticed in the above lines. Such, however, is not exactly the fact, but it sustains throughout the whole year, nearly an uniform complement of water. This circumstance has been attributed to

the stream being indebted for its supply, more to ground springs than to rain; and consequently, that it is less liable to drought in summer, and to inundation in winter.

In this parish there is but one Church, which is situated near Shaw House. It is, (at least the greater part,) a very ancient structure, but without much claim on the curiosity of the antiquary, excepting the lower part of the tower, which is round, and evidently Saxon. It is said to have been formerly roofed with Roman tiles. The living is a rectory, of which the rev. doctor Penrose is the patron. We have not been able to procure a correct succession of the rectors of this parish. For 30 years prior to 1686, it appears from his monument, that Henry Pierse had been the rector. In 1711, a doctor Lewis Dolman, was buried at Shaw, and it is conjectured that he had been the rector, although he is not in the register noticed as such. In 1716, M. Cremer was buried, and on his tomb he is called "Terrestrial Pastor," from which it may be concluded that he had been the minister of this parish. The rev. Thomas Matthews, A.M., was buried March 6th, 1775, having been the rector for 55 years; Mr. Matthews was succeeded by the rev. George Cuthbert, A.M., who died in January, 1826. It is a remarkable circumstance that the joint incumbancies of these two consecutive rectors extended to the long period of 105 years; and what may deserve further notice, is, that the former was, during his incumbency, a constant resident, and the latter never resided. On the death of Mr. Cuthbert, the present highly-esteemed rector, the rev. Matthew Armstrong was inducted, on the presentation of doctor Penrose.

In the interior of the Church are some monuments, of which we have selected the following, as being the most interesting:

Left hand side of the chancel, on a black marble monument

M: S.
Henrici Pierse; Veri Boni et
Constantis Eruditione, Pietate,
Moderatione Singularis, Istius
Ecclesiæ, per triginta annos,
Pastoris; Dilectissimi Fidelissimi;
Obijt 15 Sept. An: Dom: 1686
Ætat: Suæ 68.



Left hand side of the chancel, on an elegant white marble monument.

To the Memory
of
Sir Thomas Dolman, Kt.

(Son of Sr. Thomas Dolman,)
One of the *Dep^ty. Lef^ts. and Colonell of the Militia* of this *County*,
And one of Her Maj^ties *Justices* of the *Peace*, who dy'd the 30th of April, A.D. 1711,
Aged 54 Year's.

And of
Dame Dorothy Dolman his Wife,
Who dy'd the 15th of Jan. A.D. 1767.
In hopes of the Resurrection to
Everlasting Life.

On a white marble monument.

"Near this Chancel in the Church Yard lie the remains of
JOHN COWSLADE, ESQ.
(Gentleman Usher of the Privy Chamber to Queen Charlotte)
whose Family many years back originated in Newbury,
and having allways continued in the Neighbourhood of it,
ended at length in him and one Brother and Sister.
He divided his Fortune chiefly amongst his Kindred,
esteeming it a Piece of Vanity to aim at perpetuating a Family by Adoption,
which by the Will of Providence is on the Verge of being extinct,
and which sooner or later is to be the common Lot of all Mankind."

The above Inscription was copied from the hand writing of
John Cowslade, Esq. by his Executor, Robert Nicholas, Esq.
of Ashton Keynes in the County of Wilts,
Born 1723
Died April 8th, 1795.

On a tombstone within the chancel.

Under this stone lies the
body of Thomas Dolman,
who departed this Life
18th of July, in the year of our
Lord 1697, aged 77.
And likewise the body of
Dame Margery Dolman
his wife, who departed this
life January 21th, in the year of
our Lord 1698, aged 54.

On a white marble monument.

Sacred to the Memory of
Sr. Joseph Andrews of Shaw Place, Baronet,
who closed a Life distinguished by an uniform
Practice of every Christian Virtue,
December 29th, 1800, Aged 74
and lies enterred in this Church.
Also to that of
his only Brother, James Petit Andrews, Esq.
formerly of Donnington in this Parish,
and Anne his Wife;
He died August 1797, Aged 80. She, October 1795, Aged 41,
and lie both enterred at Hampstead Church, Middlesex.
Also to that of Charles Gray, second Son to
James Petit and Anne Andrews,
He died August 1791, Aged 18,
and lies enterred at Kingston Chapel, Hants.
This Tablet is placed as a small tribute of Gratitude
and Respect to his departed Relations,
by Joseph, Nephew, and successor in Title,
to the above Sr. J. Andrews, Bart.
and eldest Son to J. P. and Anne Andrews.

On a neat white marble monument beside the before mentioned.

To the respected Memory
of
SIR JOSEPH ANDREWS, *BART.*
of shaw place,
who died 27th Feb. 1832,
Aged 53 Years.
and of his only sister,
ELIZABETH ANN ANDREWS,
who died 12th July, 1832,
aged 61 Years.
this tablet is erected
by their grateful and affectionate relation
THOMAS PENROSE, *D.C.L.*
vicar of writtle, essex,
and of shaw place.
MDCCCXXXIII.

Near the pulpit, on a tombstone.

LYDIA CATHERINE
Dutchess Dowager of
CHANDOS,
(By her own order lies
Here Interr'd, In hopes of
A joyful Resurrection, by
The Infinite Mercy's of the
Blessed Trinity).
Died 16 Nov. 1750,
Aged 57.

Right hand side of the chancel, on a white marble monument.

In Memory of
Rear-Admiral THORPE FOWKE*
who died March the 14th, 1784:
in the 80th Year of his Age.

"If our heart condemn us not, then have
we confidence towards God. 1 *Joh.* 3, 21"
Also
of MARGARET his Wife
who died January the 17th, 1788:
in the 68th Year of her Age.

"God is not unrighteous to forget your
work and labour of love: *Heb.* 6, 10."

Near the above, on a white marble monument.

To the Memory of
EDWARD VALENTINE STEAD, Esq.
who departed this Life January the 23d 1790
Aged 35 Years,
His Remains were Intomb'd on the South Side
of SHAW Church-Yard January the 30th.
His strict Rectitude of Life Integrity of Heart
and amiable manners,
Justly claim the Tribute of sincere affliction
From the Parent, the Brother,† and the Friend.

On a white marble monument.

Sacred to the Memory of
JOHN WASEY, *of Newbury, Gent.*
who died the 6th day of June, 1804, *Aged* 52 *Years.*
Also of ANNE, *wife of the above; who died*
March the 6*th,* 1820, *Aged* 62 *Years.*
And of HARRIET JONES WASEY,
Daughter of the said
JOHN WASEY and ANNE his Wife;
who died Jan. the 31*st,* 1787, *Aged* 3 *Years.*
And also of their Son,
JAMES FREDERICK WASEY,
Lieut. in the 2*nd (or Queens Royal) Reg. of Infantry;*
who perished by Shipwreck; off the Coast of Ireland:
the 19*th day of Nov.* 1807, *Aged* 19 *Years.*

* Admiral Fowke at the time of his death was residing at Newbury, where he had for many years lived. He was a man of eccentric habits, and enjoined that the pall bearers at his funeral should consist of only females, which singular wish was complied with. He had an only son who was killed in America, at the battle, we think, of Bunker's Hill. The Admiral was, we believe, a brother of General Fowke, who commanded in 1756 at Gibralter, and was superseded, tried, and cashiered, harshly as it was supposed, for not sending a stronger reinforcement to Admiral Byng at Minorca; or, as it was said at the time, "for not having understood an order which was unintelligible."

† The brother was the late Colonel Francis Sacheverell Stead, who lived for many years at Donnington Castle House, where he died a few years ago and lies buried in this church. He was a man beloved and respected by the rich and the poor.

Right hand side, near the pulpit, on a white marble monument.

IN MEMORY OF
ANTHONY BACON ESQ.
OF ELCOT IN THIS COUNTY,
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE AT HIS SEAT, ABERAMAN, GLAMORGANSHIRE,
ON THE 11TH OF AUGUST 1627 IN THE 56TH YEAR OF HIS AGE.
ALSO TO THE MEMORY OF
ELIZABETH BACON, WIFE OF ANTHONY BACON,
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE 14TH DECEMBER 1621,
IN THE 47TH YEAR OF HER AGE.
IN THE SAME VAULT ARE DEPOSITED THE REMAINS OF
RICHARD THOMAS,
SON OF ANTHONY AND ELIZABETH BACON,
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE 27TH MAY 1622 AGED 19 YEARS
OF FOUR OTHER SONS WHO DIED IN THEIR INFANCY,
AND ALSO OF ELIZABETH ONLY SISTER OF ANTHONY BACON.

On a diamond-shape white marble tombstone.

The Terrestrial Pastor
M. CREMER
Was Buried Here
MDCCXVI.

On a flat tombstone in the churchyard.

Sacred
to the Memory of
THOMAS BEST, B.D.*
upwards of
Twenty Eight Years,
Curate of this Parish:
He died August 11th, 1830
Aged 63 Years.

His exemplary discharge
of the Pastoral Duties,
and his attention to the Poor
speak his just eulogium.

* The rev. T. Best was the senior Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford. It may be justly observed that during the period of his curacy in this parish, by a kind and unostentatious attention to the poor, and by his social and amiable demeanour with the rest of his parishioners, he secured the affectionate respect and friendship of all.

Donnington Hospital.



THE most important of the charitable foundations of this parish, is that of Donnington Hospital, which was founded in the sixteenth or seventeenth year of Richard II. (1394) by sir Richard Abberbury; who in his old age, as the charter informs us, established at Donnington a house of God for a minister and certain poor persons to pray for the king's soul and the founder's soul. This hospital, or "God's house," was dissolved, or partially so, at the reformation; and the property and revenues were vested in the crown. By a grant dated Nov. 25th, in the 44th of Elizabeth, (1602,) it was, at the instance of the Earl of Nottingham the then owner of the castle and domain, refounded, and the property restored, Over the door way of the entrance are the royal arms of Elizabeth. The queen's grant is directed to "the Minister and poor persons of Donnington Hospital, Berks, and the Earl of Nottingham." The style of the grant evinces, notwithstanding the revenues had been withdrawn, that the hospital or God's house, although impoverished, still existed with an officiating minister. Underneath is an abstract of the principal matters set forth in the grant:—

Short sketch of principal matters.

"The Queen to the Minister and poor persons of Donnington Hospital, Berks, and the Earl of Nottingham

Translation of Grant of Re-foundation. 44th Eliz. Nov. 25, 1602.

Original Founder. Sir Richard Abborbury, Kt. gave

Two Acres of Land for a house at Donnington, and the Manor of Yistely in the county of Oxford for their subsistance; and afterwards gave 26 quarters of Wheat, or thirteen Marks for value of

Endowment. the same at the will of the Donor or his heirs out





DONNINGTON HOSPITAL.



DONNINGTON HOSPITAL.



of the Manor of Donnington; and lands and tenements in Winterbourne, Mayne, and Bussuck, Berks; and out of the Manor of Sulthurne and Thoroppe in the county of Oxford.

To be received at Easter and Michaelmas, and a Distress to issue if not forthcoming. — Times of payment.

Dissolved, or pretended to be so, at the time of this Grant; and diverted to other purposes not relieved so amply as they ought. — Dissolved.

To continue in its present place, and to be called "Queen Elizabeth's Hospital." — Where.

To consist of one Minister and twelve poor persons. The Minister to rule, and to be removed only by the Patron and greater number of the twelve poor persons. — Men.

For life unless removed with just cause, and that only by the Patron and Minister. — For life.

It is a Body Corporate, with a Common Seal, &c. — Corporate Body

Minister to be appointed by the Patron who shall be an heir of the Earl of Nottingham. To be a fit, honest, and pious person. — Minister.

To have the House, Mills, &c., both at Donnington and Yistely. — Mills, &c.

Statutes and Ordainances to be made by the Patron and Minister with the *consent of the Archbishop of Canterbury, as to the Religion and Divine Service within the Hospital*; and also Salaries of Almsmen. — Statutes.

Not to be applied to any other purpose." — Not to be misapplied.

The earl of Nottingham, who is conjectured to have rebuilt at his own expense, the hospital on its ancient site, ordained rules for the government thereof. A copy of this ordinance is preserved in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. It is dated 4th March, in the sixteenth year of James I. (1619). The rules are stated to have been made by the earl of Nottingham, and Richard James, master, with the consent of the archbishop of Canterbury. As too much publicity cannot be

given to every thing relating to charitable foundations, we shall be doing acceptable service by inserting the following abstract of these ordinances.

"Heads of the Rules and Ordainances for the Government of Donnington Hospital, made by Charles Earl of Nottingham, and Richard James, Master, with the consent of the Archbishop of Canterbury; dated 4th March, and in the 16th year of James the 1st.

Appointment of Men — 1. There shall be for ever a Master and twelve Men; the Earl of Nottingham, his heirs or assigns, to appoint such Master or Almsmen within three months after vacancy, or else the King to appoint.

Not to absent without leave. — 2. Not to lodge out without consent of the Master; to forfeit 1d. for every night absent, and for every week 6d., to be given to the others; if absent twenty-eight nights to forfeit one quarter's salary, to be applied to repairs, &c.

No Stranger. — 3. No Stranger, Man or Woman, to lodge or harbour in the Hospital; Almsmen harbouring either, to lose their Rooms, &c.

Good Order. — 4. No Drunkard, Common Swearer, Gamester, Tavern Visitor, Brawler, or Fighter, or any Notorious Offender, (being warned three times by the Master,) be suffered to remain.

Porter. — 5. A Porter to be named by the Master for every Quarter of the Year; to keep the Keys of the Gate, and open and shut them from Lady day to Michaelmas at six or seven in the morning and eight o'clock at night; and from Michaelmas to Lady day at seven or eight in the morning and five o'clock at night; and give caution as to fire.

Divine Service. — 6. All but the Porter to go to Church on Sundays and Festival Days, and on Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays, if there is service, in a seemly manner together; and twice a year to receive the sacrament.

Rents. — 7. Rents to be received by the Master and disbursed.

Portions. — 8. The Master to take yearly $3\frac{1}{8}$ Quarters of Wheat, or the price at 6s. 8d. per Quarter; and

every day take 4d. of Cash from Yistely; and each of the Men 1½ Quarters, or the price at 6s. 8d. and 2d. daily, by the Week in the Hall of the Hospital and no other place; being the proper proportion.

— Provided, and it shall be lawful to alter Weekly to Quarterly payments; if rents increase or be of more value, to increase stipend in the same proportion. Provisoes.

9. The Patron to appoint a person to take Accompt in the Hospital yearly, between the feast of St. Michael and the birth of our Lord God, in the presence of the 12 Men, and give them Notice; and render an open and just and true accompt. Accompt yearly.

10. No Lease be granted but by consent of the Master and a Majority of the Men, nor unless the accustomed yearly rents or more, be reserved payable half yearly. Leasing.

11. Fines, Woodfalls, and all other casual Income, to be kept as Stock until it amount to £20 for reparations and Extras; and not to be employed without the consent of the Master and the greater part of the Almsmen. And the residue of such casual profits to be distributed by the Master in the same proportions as the annual rents and profits. Fines, &c.

10. To have 2 Chests in one of the rooms:— 1 to have 3 Locks and Keys of several Wards —1 for the Master, 1 for the eldest Almsman, and 1 for the other Almsmen. In this Chest to be kept the Common Seal, the Charter of Foundation, all Deeds, Leases, &c., and the Ordinances belonging to the Hospital. Also in this Chest, a book in which shall be entered when any Deed or thing is taken out of the Chest; by whom, and when returned. The other Chest to have 2 Locks and Keys for 3 Ledger Books. In one of which shall be entered from time to time the names of Master and Almsmen, the times of their Admission, and their death or removal. In one Com. Chests. 3 Ledger Books.

other Book, copies of all Leases, and of all Grants made by the Hospital, or which may be made. And in the third an Inventory of all moveables and gifts of Benefactors and their names. The accompts of the Master, and all other things of any Moment which shall happen.

Part of Minister's duty.

13. The Master to provide the Chests, &c., and the Books, &c.; and to write, or cause to be written, all matters or things concerning the Hospital. To keep the Keys of Vacant Rooms, and deliver to Almsmen to occupy. Men to pay 2s. 6d. on Admission for the benefit of the house. To exact and keep accompts, and exhort, and reprove, and inform the Patron.

Repairs.

14. If any Glass be broken, or other decay by wilfulness or neglect in any private room, to be amended by the Men, or forfeit 2d. per week until done; and one of the Almsmen to be appointed by the Master to oversee the works and reparations, and to give notice of defects that they may be repaired.

Begging.

15. None to beg, but may receive what is given to the Hospital in general, or to any one private Almsman.

Trade.

16. Almsman may carry on any handicraft or manual trade in the Hospital, but not to keep any ale or victualling house without the license of the Master.

Sickness.

17. To assist one another in sickness, and Master may appoint a Brother for that purpose, and pay him.

Disputes.

18. All disputes to be settled by the Patron and Master of the Hospital, (and none other) and the Men shall not complain to any other; and any that do otherwise, shall be expelled the Hospital.

19. The Patron and Master to interpret any doubt or question concerning the Ordinances or Management of the aforesaid Hospital.

NOTTINGHAM.

C. CANT. RICHARD JAMES.

The small priory of Trinitarians which was suppressed at the reformation, is supposed to have been the same foundation as that of the hospital; or that it was attached to, and formed part of such institution. It was founded by sir Richard Abberbury at the same time with the hospital.

In the list of the surrenders of abbeys which is extant in the Augmentation Office, it is thus noticed:—"Regni 30, Dunnington, the Order of the Trinity, Berksh. the minister, Nov. 30."* The revenues were then stated to be £19 3s. 10d. As the heads of the different foundations enumerated in that list are specifically named, whether prior, abbot, &c.; and such head being there designated "minister," further corroborates the idea that it was part of the same foundation. Donnington hospital is clearly, therefore, both an hospital and "religious house." It is so recognised at its re-establishment by the ordinances and rules, (embracing religious regulations,) being under the sanction, and with the approbation of the archbishop of Canterbury; who, we presume, has the right of visitation. We infer the probability of the visitatorial control of the archbishop of Canterbury from the grant of refoundation, directing that the statutes and ordinances relating to the religion and divine service within the hospital shall be with his consent; but, if that primate be not the visitor, we conceive that such duty undoubtedly devolve on the bishop of the diocese.

It appears that there are three descriptions of authorities who are entitled to exercise the jurisdiction of visitor; the king, the founder and his heirs, or such person or authority as the founder may have appointed, and in spiritual foundations, the bishop of the diocese. Blackstone says,† "that if the hospital be spiritual, the bishop shall visit; but if lay, the patron." He also says, that all the "hospitals founded by virtue of the statute 39 Eliz. c. 5, are to be visited by such persons as shall be nominated by the respective founders. But still, if the founders appoint nobody, the bishop of the diocese must visit." As a confirmation of this position, Blackstone adds, "And in some of our colleges, where no special visitor is appointed, the bishop of that diocese, (Lincoln,) in which Oxford was formerly comprised, has immemorially exercised visitatorial authority." As, we

* Burnett's Reformation, vol. iv. page 92.
† Ibid, vol. i. page 492.



think, no doubt can be entertained that Donnington hospital is a "spiritual" foundation; the question as to whom appertain the privilege and duty of visiting rests, we apprehend, between only the archbishop of Canterbury and the bishop of the diocese. We incline to think that the reference to the former in the preparation of the rules as to religion and divine service, raises a strong presumption in favour of the archbishop of Canterbury having been specially appointed to the exclusion of the diocesan, the person to exercise the visitatorial authority over this hospital. We offer our sentiments on this point with deference, not being lawyers, we have treated the question and our construction of Blackstone, rather in a popular sense, than with the technical learning and acuteness of a professional writer.

We apprehend that the "minister" was intended, and ought to be, for the due observance and performance of "religion and divine service in the hospital," in holy orders; and that the appointment of a layman, however respectable, is not in strict conformity with the obvious meaning and intendment of the foundation.

We are not in possession of what may now be the property belonging to this institution, but it was, on its refoundation, of considerable amount; for besides the "lands and tenements in Winterbourne, Mayne, and Bussuck," the grant specifies "the house, mills, &c. both at Donnington and Yistely." Unless under the authority of an act of parliament, we conceive that any alteration or alienation of the estates could not have been legally or effectually accomplished. Being a *religious* foundation, it may be doubted if length of time has destroyed the right which may have *once* existed, to any property. The maxim of *nullum tempus occurrit ecclesiæ*, applying, we submit, as forcibly to this hospital as to any other ecclesiastical endowment or church. It would seem from the foregoing statement that the property originally endowed, was of much greater extent than that which is now applicable to the institution. The present income, we are informed, arises principally from fines on the renewal of leases, and on admittances to copyholds, and consequently is casual and uncertain. By accounts which have been shewn to us for some ten years past, the average income to each almsman has been about 8s. 10d. per week.

It should likewise be stated that several hundred pounds were within these few years expended in the complete and substantial repair of the building,

The accounts also are annually audited by a gentleman, appointed for that purpose, who is entirely unconnected with the charity. Whatever therefore may, through the lapse of years, or other circumstances, have been lost to the charity, it will be admitted that the present revenues are justly and fairly appropriated to their proper objects.

Benefactions to the Parish of Shaw cum Donnington.

Sir Thomas Dolman by his will, dated the 5th of February, 1710, gave £50 to the churchwardens and overseers of the parish of Shaw, to be by them placed out at interest, on such security as two justices of the peace for Berkshire may approve. Ten shillings of the interest to be paid to the rector of Shaw, for preaching a sermon "on the 17th day of Oct. yearly, being the birthday of the testator." The residue to be divided amongst the poor on that day as the "rector, churchwardens, and overseers, should think fit." By some accumulations of interest, this was augmented to the sum of £99 2s. 8d., and under some chancery proceedings, was directed to be invested. By deeds dated 28th and 29th September, 1754, the above money, together with a sum of £40 called "Shipton's Charity Money," was invested in a meadow containing three acres, in the parish of Speen; and which meadow was conveyed to Joseph Andrews, Thomas Cowslad, and David Hartley, esquires, in trust for such charities.

Prior to giving an account of the donation derived from the duke of Chandos, a slight sketch of his character may not be an irrelevant or uninteresting digression.

James, duke of Chandos, was the first duke of that title, and was raised to the dignity by George the First, in 1719. He was the son of lord Chandos, of Sudley in Gloucestershire; and during the life of his father, was a member of the lower house in the reign of Anne. Dean Swift says, "he was a great complier with every court." In early life Swift was intimate with him, but after his elevation to the dukedom, the dean was, or fancied that he was, slighted by him. In consequence Swift, who was



not deficient in that irascibility deemed the characteristic of poets, wrote in 1734 the following epigram; which is rather distinguished for low ribaldry than point or wit.

"James Brydges and the Dean had long been friends;
James is beduk'd; of course their friendship ends:
But sure the Dean deserves a sharp rebuke,
For knowing James, to boast he knows the duke.
Yet since just heaven, the duke's ambition mocks,
Since all he got by fraud is lost by stocks,
His wings are clipp'd, he tries no more in vain,
With bands of fiddlers to extend his train.
Since he no more can build, and plant, and revel,
The duke and dean seem near upon a level.
O! wast thou not a duke, my good duke Humphrey,
From bailiff's claws thou scarce could'st keep thy b—m free;
A duke to know a dean! go, smooth thy crown:
Thy brother,* (far thy better,) wore a gown.
Well, but a duke thou art, so pleased the king,
O! would his majesty but add a string?"

In this epigram Swift alludes to his grace's passion for extravagant shew and display. From this duke of Chandos, Pope drew the character of Timon in his epistle to the Earl of Burlington on "The Use of Riches." A more beautiful and powerful satire on false taste and comfortless splendour and magnificence was, perhaps, never penned. However open the duke may have been to ridicule from this weakness, it was, at the time, by the public deemed as coming with an ill grace from Pope, who had experienced much kindness and civility from this nobleman: Pope having been much in Berkshire, it is by no means improbable that he might have visited him at Shaw. Of the duke of Chandos, Dr. Johnson, in his life of Pope, says, "a man perhaps too much delighted with pomp and show, but of a temper kind and beneficient." Pope, Johnson tells us, "wrote an exculpatory letter to the duke, which was answered with great magnanimity, as by a man who accepted his excuse without believing his professions." Lady Betty Germain in a letter to Swift, January 11, 1731-2, says, in allusion to the prevailing sentiments on this satire, "the run is much against him, (Pope) on the duke of Chandos's account." His second duchess Cassandra died some time before February 1735, as appears by the deed of donation to which we shall presently more particularly refer. He afterwards

* The Hon. Henry Brydges, Archdeacon of Rochester.

married lady Duval. (the widow of a sir Thomas Duval,) who possessed a fortune of £40,000. It may be presumed that there was a great disparity in station, for in a letter from Mrs. Pendarves to Swift, April 22, 1736, she says, "The duke of Chandos's marriage has made a great noise; and the poor duchess is often reproached with her being bred up in Bur-street, Wapping." This duchess, Lydia Catherine, who was much younger than the duke, survived him, and was buried at Shaw. That the duke might have merited the character given to him by Swift as to his compliance with the court is not improbable; for he appears to have been very successful in attaining honours. He was lord lieutenant of the counties of Hereford and Radnor, and a member of the privy council of George I.; the marquis of Carmarthen his son, was a knight of the Bath.*

In a deed of gift from the duke, dated 2nd February 1735, it is stated that his late duchess had intimated her desire that he should settle "a perpetual charity of £5 a year within the parishes of Shaw and Speen; towards the maintenance and relief of ten poor families residing within, and being inhabitants settled in those parishes, and not receiving public alms," Also the sum of 20s. to be yearly paid to the rector of the parish of Shaw, for reading prayers and preaching one sermon yearly on the 23rd of April, in the parish church of Shaw; also 5s. to the clerk for his attendance on that occasion. The duke in compliance with her wish conveys certain lands in Speen parish, (about eight acres,) to his eldest son Henry, marquis of Carnarvon, on the above trusts. The families to receive such charity were to be nominated by the duke during his life, and afterwards by the said Henry, marquis of Carnarvon, his heirs and assigns, or by some person or persons to be deputed by him or them. The deed contains also the following provisions:— "Provided always that all and every the person or persons, family or families so as aforesaid appointed, or in pursuance of these presents, to be from time to time and at all times hereafter named and appointed to have and receive such charity shall attend the whole time of such prayers and sermon so as aforesaid to be yearly read and preached in the said parish church of Shaw, on pain that every of them neglecting shall forfeit and lose his,

* The present duke of Buckingham and Chandos married the Lady Anne Elizabeth Brydges, daughter and heiress of James the III., and last Duke of Chandos of that family.



her, and their share and benefit of the said charity; unless such person or persons, family or families, shall by lameness or sickness be unable to attend the same. And unless, in case of such inability as aforesaid, such person or persons, family or families, shall procure a certificate, or certificates, signed by the churchwardens of his, her, or their respective parish or parishes; certifying such his, her, or their inability, and also some neighbour or neighbours, who shall attend such prayers and sermon with such certificate or certificates, to receive such charity for him, her, or them, so unable to attend. And provided also, that in case the said rector of Shaw aforesaid for the time being shall neglect or refuse to read prayers and to preach a sermon annually in the said parish church of Shaw on the day and time aforesaid, and also annually to read this deed or writing between such prayers and sermon in the said church, with an audible voice, to the congregation there assembled, that then, and in either of the said cases, the said rector, for the time being, shall every year, wherein he shall be remiss in any part of the duty enjoined him as aforesaid, forfeit and lose the said sum of 20s. so directed to be paid to him as aforesaid. A like forfeiture as to the 5s. to the parish clerk, is declared in case of his neglect to attend on that occasion."

Francis Sacheverell Stead, Esq., bequeathed, 1824, the sum of £100, which has been vested in the purchase of £296 6s. in the 3 per Cent. Consols, the interest whereof is distributed by the parish officers in any manner they shall think fit and serviceable to such of the poor of Donnington as receive no relief from the parish.

Mrs. Anthony Bacon and Mrs. Barton gave £20 each to the poor, which sums, with some other contributions were invested in a £50 debenture, under an act for the improvement of the borough of Newbury, the interest whereof is annually distributed amongst twenty poor persons.

Shipton gave £40 to the parish officers in trust to pay the interest to the poor, after paying the minister 6s. 8d. each time for preaching a sermon on Whit-Tuesday, and another on St. Stephen's Day.

A piece of land in Red Field, in the parish of Thatcham, let to Charles Dolton at £3 per Annum; was left to this parish by some person unknown, and called the "Churchwarden's Acre."

In treating of the remaining parishes to which we shall confine our work, we fear that we shall not be enabled to introduce so much novelty or original matter as may be expected. For this the diligence and research of the editors are not to be blamed; the scantiness of intelligence is not to be attributed to negligence, but rather to the fact that after resorting to every source within our reach, we are constrained to the conclusion that not much further information is discoverable which has not previously, in some shape or another, by Lysons or other antiquaries, been laid before the public.

To eke out a work of this kind, without being able to adduce sufficient matters of interest, would be the continuance of a laborious and an useless task. We shall therefore in conclusion, treat of Thatcham and Bucklebury, with some short notices of two or three other parishes; and as it is our wish not to extend the work beyond the present number, we shall endeavour to compress our subjects within that limit; we shall also introduce some topics although not in immediate connection with such districts, nor in continuous order, yet from their possessing some peculiar interest may merit notice.

Thatcham.

The parish which is situated next in the environ of Newbury, is Thatcham, the Taceham of Domesday. We shall follow Lysons, introducing such new matter or more extended information as our opportunity may afford. If in the prosecution of this plan we do not present, for the reasons which we have assigned, any great quantity of fresh materials, we shall at least place within more accessible reach, and accompanied with some illustrations, that information which has heretofore been confined to an expensive work in but few hands.

This parish is in the hundred of Reading, and is East of Newbury. It is said by Lysons to have been formerly a town of some consequence, as appears from the survey of Domesday and other records, in which it is described as an antient Borough; but it does not appear that it ever sent representatives to parliament. From a very early period it had a market on Sundays, which was confirmed by a Charter of

Henry II to the abbot and convent of Reading. Henry III in 1218 altered the market days to Thursday. The market has long been discontinued. Two annual fairs are still held, the Tuesday after Easter week and the first Tuesday after the 29th of September. In reference to the alteration of the market day from Sunday, it may be observed that such change was generally effected by Henry III. who, though weak and pusillanimous and, even for that age, superstitiously devoted to the See of Rome, was nevertheless a devout prince. It may therefore be justly concluded, that his motive for introducing this change of day was to prevent a desecration of the Sunday and to induce amongst his subjects a more decent observance of that day. Thatcham is divided into the following tithings or hamlets:—Midgham, Thatcham-Borough, Henwick, Colthrop, Parsonage, Awbery-street, Crookham, Chamberhouse, and Greenham. The hamlets of Midgham and Greenham support by a separate rate, their own poor. The whole parish comprises the following manors or reputed manors:—Crookham, Midgham, Thatcham-Borough, Thatcham, Colthrop, Henwick, Chamberhouse, and Greenham.

A very great extent of land in this parish, including the manors of Thatcham Borough, Thatcham, and Colthrop, formerly belonged to brigadier-general Waring, who purchased the same of James, duke of Chandos, in the year 1722. The manor of Thatcham (which we apprehend included the subordinate manors) was given to the abbot and convent of Reading by their founder Henry I. After the dissolution of the monastry it was granted in 1539 to John Winchcombe, son of the celebrated Jack of Newbury. Upon the attainder of Henry lord Bolingbroke,* who, as we have already stated, married one of the co-heiresses of his descendant, sir Henry

* In a Latin ode addressed to St. John by the poet Philips, he pays some elegant compliments to the beauty and talent of his lady.

"Quin precor Optima
Ut neque conjux sopitetur
Te consulentem Militia super
Rebus togatum: Marte, Tori decus
Formosa cui Francesca cessit
Crine placens, Niveoque collo
Quem [illegible] cum decentium

Winchcombe, bart. it was purchased, under an act of parliament, by James, duke of Chandos. Other estates, including the manor or lordship of Greenham, were also the property of general Waring, and purchased by him of Henry, duke of Kent, K. G. in 1725. General Waring built a magnificent residence called "Dunston House" on a spot of ground on the north, or north-east, of the village of Thatcham, near to the road leading to Bucklebury, and which was deemed one of the finest residences in the county. This mansion, with the estates, became the property of sir Archer Croft, bart. in consequence of his marriage with Frances, the only daughter of general Waring, to whom the property devolved on the death, without issue, of her only brother, William Ball Waring, esq.

The family patrimony of sir Archer Croft was Croft Castle and estates in Herefordshire, which, on his acquisition of the property in Berkshire, were sold. The Crofts were a very antient family of the former county. Camden in his *Britannia* notices the castle "as belonging to the famous and very antient and knightly family of the Crofts." Herbert Croft, son of a bishop of Hereford, was created a bart. in 1671; and married a daughter of Thomas Archer, esq. of Umbersdale, in Warwickshire. The Berkshire estates were enjoyed after the death of sir Archer Croft and his widow, dame Frances Croft, by their eldest son, sir Archer Croft, who dying in 1792, without male heir, the title and property

Ornat labellis cui Venus insidet
Tu sorte felix."

PARAPHRASE.

"Health to the fair, whose charms can soothe
The statesman's arduous toils, and smoothe
The patriot's rough career—
The factious court, the camp's alarms,
St. John forgets in Fanny's arms,
Supremely blest in her—
The sparkling glance, the lofty brow,
The curls that round her neck of snow
In clustering ringlets twine,
The cultured mind, the modest grace,
And lips, the roseate resting place
Where Venus smiles—are thine."

Mrs. Tely was buried in Bucklebury church, and her monument with the [illegible] were selected from that church.

devolved on his only surviving brother, sir John Croft. On the death of the last-named bart., in 1798, without leaving legitimate issue, the extensive estates were sold pursuant to the will of his mother, lady Croft. On this sale, the property, (including the great tithes, which until the Reformation, had been attached to the abbot and convent of Reading) became divided into numerous portions. The manors of Thatcham Borough, Thatcham, and Colthrop, were purchased by Wm. Mount, esq. the father of Mr. Mount, of Wasing Place. The manor of Greenham, Lysons says, was at the time of the Norman Survey, part of the large property of Henry de Ferrars. In that survey it is thus described—"Henry himself holds Greneham. Seuuard held it of king Edward in freehold. 5 hides of pasture, now 2 hides and a half of pasture. The arable land is 10 carucates. In demesne there are 2 carucates and 11 villeins (or villagers) and 19 bordmen (or borderers) with 7 ploughs. There is a church and 4 servants and a mill and half of 11 shillings and 2 pence less, and 41 acres of meadow *and a quarter:* 20 acres of meadow in the time of king Edward and afterwards. Its value was £8, now £6." From this extract it appears that Greenham then had a church or chapel. Lysons adds, that "Maud, countess of Clare, in the reign of Henry II. gave the manor of Greenham to the Knights Hospitallers, at the same time Gervase Paynell gave them the village. The Hospitallers had a preceptory at this place, as appears by a catalogue of Berkshire gentry in the reign of Henry VI., among whom is John Prendegast, preceptor of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem of Greenham. About the beginning of Henry III.'s reign, Ralph, lord Musard, had a manor in Greenham, which seems to have been distinct from that of the Knights Hospitallers. The Sotwells, of Chute, in Wiltshire, had a seat at Greenham, and, it is probable, the manor, during the early part of the 17th century." On the sale of these estates, the late James Croft, esq. who had married Charlotte Elizabeth, the eldest daughter and one of the co-heiresses of the late sir Archer Croft, bart., purchased this manor and the estates attached to it. Mr. Croft built a commodious residence called Greenham Lodge. The whole is

now the property of his eldest son, Archer James Croft, esq. The old manor house stood near the chapel and had been for many years used as a farm house. It was pulled down by Mr. Croft and a small farm house erected on the site. The chapel has been enlarged and improved within these few years, and the interior, without much pretension to embellishment, is very neat. There are mural monuments to the late Mr. and Mrs. Croft.

On a neat white marble tablet, near the pulpit.

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF
JAMES CROFT, ESQ.
of Greenham Lodge
in this County;
who departed this life
the 17th day of January, 1829:
Aged 78 Years.

An honest man's the noblest work of God.

Close to the above, on a similar white marble tablet.

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF
CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH,
(Widow of the late JAMES CROFT, ESQ.)
deceased at Chichester,
the 9th day of Sept. 1833, Aged 72 Years.
Her mortal remains are deposited
in an adjoining vault, by the side
of those of her late husband.

I heard a voice from Heaven saying unto me,
Write, Blessed are the dead, which die in the Lord
from henceforth. Rev. of St. John, Chap. 14th,
V. 13th.

Lysons gives the following particulars of the manors of Crookham and Chamberhouse:—

"Reginald Fitzpiers died seized of the manor of Crokeham, in 1286, king Edward II. granted it to Piers de Gaveston, who was beheaded at Warwick in 1312. King Edward III. granted it in 1330 to sir William Montacute, afterwards earl of Salisbury, and Katherine his wife: it continued in this noble family till the death of the unfortunate Margaret, countess of Salisbury, (the last of the Plantagenets) who was executed in her old age, by command of the king, Henry VIII. in 1541. The following year, the manor of Crokeham (with the tithes of Crokeham Park,

which had been enclosed by William, earl of Salisbury, in 1337) was granted to William, earl of Southampton, and his heirs male, with remainder to lord Herbert, eldest son of the earl of Worcester, and his heirs male. In 1667, the marquis of Worcester being then seized of the fee of this manor, under a grant of king Charles II. sold it to the family of Mico. In 1682 it became the property of Sebastian Lyford, whose grandson and devisee, Clement Kent, sold it in 1729, to Bulstrode Peachey Knight, esq. an ancestor of lord Selsea, the present proprietor. There was anciently a free chapel at Crokeham, of which there are no remains. In the year 1447, John Pury, being then lord of the manor of Chamberhouse, in this parish, had the king's license to embattle his manor-house, and to impark 344 acres of land. From the Purys, Chamberhouse passed, by a female heir, to William Danvers, one of the Justices of the Common Pleas, who died in 1504, and lies buried in Thatcham church.* Nicholas Fuller, a barrister, and his son, sir Nicholas Fuller, knight, both died seized of this manor, in 1620. It was purchased of their descendants, in the early part of the last century, by Mr. Lonsdale, whose family sold it, not many years ago, to sir George Cornwall, bart." It is now the property of Richard Tull, esq. whose father purchased it of sir George Cornwall.

The manor, or reputed manor of Henwick, formerly belonged to the late Bartholomew Tipping, esq. of Woolley Park, in this county, and was sold, with other estates, under an act of parliament authorizing the rev. Philip Wroughton and Mary Ann, his wife, who was the niece and heiress of Mr. Tipping, to sell.

The manor of Midgham, Lysons informs us, had at a remote period been successively in the families of Erle, Stokes, and Norris. It is now the property of William Stephen Poyntz, esq. of Cowderoy Park, in Sussex, whose ancestor purchased it of the Hillersdons upwards of a century ago.

The parish of Thatcham is the most extensive of any in Berkshire, excepting that of Lamborne, containing according to Rocque's survey 11,191 acres. An inclosure of the common

* From an entry in the Thatcham Register, the right worshipful master Edmond Danvers, of Chamberhouse, esq. presented that church with its earliest Register (1570).

[redacted]elds, containing about 800 acres, took place in the year 1811.

The principal residences in this parish, are now, Midgham [redacted]House, belonging to Mr. Poyntz, and Greenham Lodge. At [redacted]Benwick was formerly a residence belonging to the Tipping family, but which has for a very long time past been occupied as a farm house, and is now the property of Mr. Mount.

The parish church is situated in the village of Thatcham, and there are two chapels of ease, one at Greenham, and the other at Midgham; the latter was rebuilt in 1714 by John Hillersdon, esq. the then owner of the manor.

In this chapel, on an elegant white marble monument near the pulpit, is the following inscription;—

IN THE VAULT
BENEATH THIS MEMORIAL
ERECTED IN TESTIMONY OF FILIAL AND FRATERNAL AFFECTION
ARE LAID THE REMAINS OF
ISABELLA POYNTZ,
WIFE OF WILLIAM POYNTZ, ESQ.
WHO DIED APRIL THE 21ST, 1805, AGED 63 YEARS
ALSO THE REMAINS OF
WILLIAM POYNTZ, ESQ.
WHO DIED MAY THE 13TH, 1809, AGED 75 YEARS
AND OF THEIR SON
MORDAUNT MONTAGU POYNTZ, ESQ.
WHO DIED MAY THE 21ST, 1820, AGED 38 YEARS

"I WILL RANSOM THEM FROM THE POWER OF THE GRAVE:
I WILL REDEEM THEM FROM DEATH."
HOSEA, C. XIII, V. 14.

There was also as before noticed, at a remote period, a chapel at Crookham, but no remains of the building are traceable, and the site is not even known. There is an Independent and a Wesleyan chapel in the village.

The church is a large irregular building, parts indicating a high antiquity, and carrying us down to the Saxon or Anglo-Norman era of architecture; but some of the best specimens of that style have been defaced or blocked up, particularly an antient door-way, a highly ornamental work of Saxon building. Having been favoured with a description of this church by a correspondent versed in architectural subjects, we take the liberty of subjoining it.

"The parish church is an antient and rather heavy-looking



structure, consisting of a body or nave with side aisles, having the tower on the west, the chancel on the east, and a chantry, or small chapel at the south-east corner.

"The walls of the tower, the north aisle, and vestry adjoining, are principally composed of flint, with some portions of stone work, the rest of the walls are mostly of brick.

"The tower, which is crowned with battlements and pinnacles, is not devoid of architectural beauty, particularly on the west side, where in addition to two windows is a handsome gothic door-way and buttresses at the angles; a little below the battlements of the tower on each side, are two grotesque heads of stone, between which, but rather lower, is a gothic window, the lower part in three, the upper part in six divisions, like lancet windows, placed side by side, and ornamented with lusps; in addition to these are three others of narrow dimensions, and several more slits for the admission of light, in different parts of the tower.

"The windows of the north aisle and vestry adjoining it, the window of the chantry, and one on the south side, are in the perpendicular gothic style, the lower or square part being in two or three divisions, while the upper part or head is in smaller divisions, each division being crowned with an arch ornamented with lusps.

"In the north wall of the chancel are two small lancet windows, the one wholly, the other partly filled up, and one of wider dimensions in two divisions, the head ornamented with lusps, forming a trefoil. The rest of the windows are mostly devoid of ornament.

"The pillars and arches of the interior are for the most part plain, and evidently the work of different ages, some being in the rounded, others in the pointed style.

"Near the south entrance, and almost concealed by a very small modern gallery, is an arch in the Norman style, with the chevron and other ornaments, in the style of the eleventh century. Nothing could add more to the beauty of the church than the removal of the gallery which conceals from view so beautiful a specimen of antient architecture.

"The chantry has a ceiling of wood, ornamented with moulde-

ribs and pannelled, scarcely any thing remains of the screen which once separated it from the south aisle."

We have selected the following monuments from this church:

On a white marble monument, right-hand side of the chancel.

In a Vault near this Stone
are deposited the remains of
DAME FRANCES CROFT,
Relict of the late Sir ARCHER CROFT, Bart.
Who, after a life
EXEMPLARY
For Prudence and Resignation in Adversity,
Liberality and Charity in Prosperity,
and the constant display
of Love to her Children,
and Benevolence to all,
was removed
from the sorrows of mortality
on the 10th day of May
in the Year of our Lord 1767
and in the 67th Year of her age.

Reader, follow her example
in thy progress thro' Life,
and pray for her Composure
at the approach of Death;

"Let me die the death of the righteous,
And let my last end be like hers."

This Stone was erected
at the sole expence of her Son
Sir ARCHER CROFT, Bart. of Dunston Park,
As a testimony of his Gratitude and Veneration
for the best of Parents.

In the same Vault
are deposited the Remains
of GEORGE THOMAS HERBERT CROFT
Son of the present Sir ARCHER CROFT, Bart.
who died the 16th Day of April, 1766
Aged 14 Months.
And also the remains of
Sir ARCHER CROFT, Bart.
who died the 4th Day of Dec. 1792
Aged 65 Years.

In Chamberhouse Aisle on an elegant carved marble monument.

Hic iacet sepul-
tus Nicholaus Fuller,
Armiger legisperitus hospitij
D d

Graiensis, bis lector publicus, qui
Certa spe in Christo resurgendi,
Obijt 23 die Febru 1620, 76 Ætat
Suæ. Filios reliquit 2, Nicholaum
Natu maximum Militem. et
Danielem, filias quinque,
Elizabetham, Annam, Mariam,
Saram, et Abigalem; qui
Nicholaus Miles, 30 Die Julij,
Proximo post Patris obitum
Expirans vitam, eodem quo
Pater tumulatur sepulchro.

Jacturam pax, lex, pietas, populus Nicholai
Fulleri mæsta morte tulere pij.
Hi lucrum, sancti te, tu Fulleri coronam,
Cœlum animum, corpus funera, Christus ovem.
Te decoravit amor, ius, Fama, Scientia, Virtus,
Spes, Bonitas, Pietas, Christus ad astra tulit.

Translation, by the rev. Seth Thompson.

"Peace, law, and piety o'er Fuller's bier
With weeping Britain joined the social tear:
Great was their loss! And yet a lovely train
Of angels, Fuller, count thy death a gain;
For they gain'd thee; amongst them thou wast crown'd;
Heaven gain'd thy Soul; thy body rest hath found,
And Christ a sheep. Love, justice, science, fame,
Virtue, hope, goodness, piety, thy name
With all their honors upon earth have prais'd;
And Christ thy soul to heaven itself hath rais'd."

In the chancel on the floor.

Here lyeth the body of Iohn
Facy, the sonn of Iohn Facy
and of Philis his wife, he was
borne the 17th of Iune, 1637, and
was buried the 10th day of March.
1660.

Here lyeth the Body of
Thomas Nelson, of Chadleworth,
Esqr. Aged fifty four yeares, who
departed this life the 27 of May
Anno Dom: 1693. And left
behind him his wife Mary and two
Children, Thomas & Elizabeth.

HERRE LYETH THE
BODY OF ROGER KNIGHT,
OF GREENHAM, ESQ. WHO
DEPARTED THIS LIFE Y^E
6H OF DECEMBER, AN. DNI.
1653,
ÆTATIS SVÆ 69.

Adjoining the above three, in front.

HERE LYETH INTERRED THE BODIE OF
ELENOR, THE WIFE OF WILLIAM SOT-
WELL OF GREENHAM, ESQVIER, WHOE
LIVED VERTUOUSLY AND DIED IN Y^E
FAITH OF OVR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
THE 14 DAYE OF JVLYE, 1617, BEINGE
THEN OF THE AGE OF 34 YERES &
4 MONTHES, AND LEFT LIVINGE BY
HER SAID HUSBAND ONE SONNE AND
THREE DAVGHTERS.

In Chamberhouse aisle.

Beneath lieth the Body
of JOHN LANSDELL, (of Chamberhouse,) Esqr.
He died the 4th day of July,
1739,
Aged 73 Years.

CHRYSOSTOM LANSDELL,
son
of the above JOHN LANSDELL,
died the 22nd day of October,
1771,
Aged 73 Years, also lies buried
Here.

And
JOHN LANSDELL,
died the 13th day of October,
1776,
Aged 81 Years.

is a charity school in this parish of which we have
nished with the following particulars :—
blue-coat school at Thatcham was founded by lady
Winchcomb, and endowed by her, by deed of gift to
bearing date the 30th of June, 1707, with the sum



of £53 per annum for ever, being a rent charge on the Manor Farm and Grange of St. Mary's, Thornhill, Westport, near Malmesbury, Wilts, the property of J. Neate, esq. for the purpose of educating and clothing 30 poor boys, being members of the church of England as by law established, and living in the parishes of Thatcham, Bucklebury, and Little Shefford, and yearly putting three of them apprentices to some trade. A few years afterwards, lord Bolingbroke, the only existing trustee, being obliged to leave the country, and the estate passing to other hands, the said rent charge was not paid, and the school was consequently discontinued for many years. At length the late R. Tull, esq. of Crookham, and the rev. Seth Thompson, the vicar of this parish, instituted proceedings in the court of Chancery for the recovery of the same, and after much litigation, the then lord Chancellor by his decree dated May, 1794, ordered the defendants to pay into court the amount of the 70 years' rent charge due from the estate, with legal interest thereon; when after deducting the costs of both parties, there appeared a balance of £5195 in favour of the charity, which sum was ordered to be invested in the old South Sea Annuities, in the name of the accountant-general for the benefit of the charity. The decree also appointed seven trustees, and directed that so often as their number became reduced to three, they should nominate others to fill up the number, subject to the approbation of the lord Chancellor. The present trustees are the rev. Joseph Lowthian, the present vicar; the rev. C. B. Coxe, rector of Little Shefford; W. Mount; R. Tull; Edward Goddard, and W. H. H. Hartley, esqrs. The same decree also ordered, that in future 40 boys should be clothed and educated, and directed that a certain sum annually should be applied to the purpose of appenticing such of the said boys as the trustees should approve of. It also appointed a certain sum for repairs, for stationery, for fuel, for the master's salary, and the remainder for the purchase of clothing, which consists of every necessary article for each boy. The school-house, originally a chapel, (supposed to have been Roman Catholic) was purchased by the foundress, in a ruinous state, with the ground thereto belonging, of one Harrison, for the sum of ten shillings."

Bucklebury.

The parish of Bucklebury, or as it was antiently spelt Burghildbury, is in the hundred of Reading, adjoins Thatcham on the north-east, and is about five miles from Newbury. This manor formed part of the extensive possessions of Reading Abbey. Subsequent to the dissolution of the monasteries in 1539, it was granted to or purchased by John Winchcombe, the son of the Jack of Newbury. It may be supposed from the extensive grants which were obtained by him from the estates of the Abbey of Reading, that the family of Winchcombe enjoyed some influence at court, and that he had fully adopted the religious opinions of the Reformation, and, like numerous others, felt no compunction in availing himself, on the alienation of the church lands, of the opportunity of acquiring extensive possessions, as it may be conjectured, on moderate terms.

The speculation, at this period, in the purchase of monastic and church property, from the recent change which had been adopted in the church establishment of this kingdom, must have been deemed somewhat precarious. It is therefore a reasonable inference that this, and the other extensive estates abstracted from the church, and now constituting the wealth of so many great families, were procured on terms very inadequate to even their then intrinsic value.

We have, in our account of Donnington Castle, incidentally introduced some information of the Winchcombe family, which it will be unnecessary to repeat further than may be requisite and appropriate to the subject immediately before us.

The same succession from the Winchcombes, to the present owner of this manor, Winchcombe Henry Howard Hartley, esq. as described in our account of Donnington Castle, applies equally in the present case.*

* The following description, sent us by a correspondent, of the widow of the renowned Jack of Newbury, may be not inappropriately introduced in this place.

"In Strutt's 'Habits of the People of England,' 4to edition, 1796, vol. 2, p. 285, the dress of the widow of John Winchcombe, when she had laid aside her weeds, is thus described. (Strutt quotes from the History of John Winchcombe, but does not say by whom or when published.)"

In this parish are three hamlets, called Chapel-row, Hawteridge or Hawkridge, and the manor of Marlston or Martlestone. It is singular that some of the lands in Hawkridge, are in the parish of Sutton Courtney, near Abingdon. Lysons tells us that the manor of Marlestone "belonged to the family of Norreys, in the reign of Henry VII.; afterwards to the Braybrookes. Sir Jeffrey Martell being possessed of this manor, built a chapel at Marlston, and agreed with the then vicar of Bucklebury to officiate in it every other Sunday, upon payment of a quarter of wheat and a quarter of mislen at Christmas, and certain monies at Easter; this payment has long ceased, but the duty is continued. Richard Wightwick, the founder of Pembroke College in Oxford, being possessed of this manor, left the fee of it to the college, subject to a lease of 500 years to his own family; and either he himself, or one of his successors in the estate, charged it in the mean time with an annuity of £70 per annum to the college. The last heir male died in 1728, leaving two daughters, the survivor of whom, Mrs. Wyld, having no issue, bequeathed her interest in this estate to a female friend, from whom it passed to the then proprietor, Mrs. Sarah Ouchterlony. The manor of Marlston is held under the Abbey manor at East Hendred. The rectorial tithes of this hamlet are annexed to the vicarage of Bucklebury." On the

"She came out of the kitchen in a fair train gowne, stuck full of silver pins, having a white cap upon her head, with cuts of curious needle work under the same, and an apron before her as white as driven snow." Her wedding dress is also specified in the same history in the following manner. "The bride being habited in a gowne of sheep's russet, and a kirtle of fine worsted, her head attired with a biliment of gold, and her hair as yellow as gold, hanging down behind her, which was curiously combed and plaited, according to the manner of those days, was led to church between two boys with bride laces and rosemary tied about their silken sleeves."

The maidens employed in spinning, are prettily described in the following lines, in the book just referred to.

"And in a chamber close beside,
Two hundred maidens did abide,
In petticoats of stammel red,
And milk white kerchers on their head;
Their smock sleeves like to winter snow,
That on the western mountains blow,
And each sleeve with a silken band
Was fairly tied at the hand.
These pretty maids did never lin,
But in that place all day did spin."

of Mrs. Ouchterlony, the manor and estate of Marlston
ved on Benjamin Bunbury, esq. and are now the property
only son, Henry Mill Bunbury, esq.

ın Winchcombe, the original grantee of the Bucklebury
', built a large mansion there, in the Elizabethan style:
house it was found necessary to repair a short time since,
ın prosecuting such repairs it was discovered that the
ɜ of the building was in too defective a state, and it was
fore pulled down. Mr. Hartley now possesses no man-
ɔn this extensive estate, (about five thousand acres) which
een so long in his family, and is identified with the early
ınd prosperity of his predecessors, the Winchcombes, who
such important and influential stations in the county. He
mplated, it is understood, the erection of a suitable residence,
ı eligible and commanding site, on the common of Buckle-
; but having been thwarted in an attempt to carry a bill of
sure, it appears that he has, at least for some time,
loned the intention of building on this property. Amongst
'amily portraits in the gallery of the old mansion, was an
nal portrait of John Winchcombe, the son of the Jack of
bury, the date is 1550, and his age 61: a copy of this
ait is in the new Town House at Newbury, and has been
ıeously supposed to be the portrait of the father.

ıe other mansion in this parish is Marlston House, which
been much enlarged and improved by the present owner,
Bunbury. His father also repaired and embellished
lston chapel.

In this chapel are the following monuments

HERE LYETH interred the body of Samvel
Wightwicke, Esq. Prothonatory of his Majesties
covrt of King's Bench, (the Second Sonne of Francis
Wightwicke, of Wightwicke, in the Covnty of Stafford,
Esqvire,) who dyed the 24th dav of Avgvst, in the
yeare of our Lord Christ 1662, and in the 70th
yeare of his age.

Heauen only knowes the Blisse his soule inioyes,
Whil'e wee on earth seeke after fading toyes,
And doe not mind how saints and Angells singe,
To see him thron'd with his eternall king.

In the chancel.

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF
BENJAMIN BUNBURY
OF MARLSTON HOUSE,
SON OF THOMAS BUNBURY
OF THE COUNTY OF CARLOW, IRELAND:
OBT. XXVIITH AUGUST, MDCCCXXVII.
MARRIED FIRST ANNE, DAUGHTER AND CO-HEIRESS
OF HENRY COWHY, OF RICHMOND,
IN THE COUNTY OF YORK,
BY WHOM HE LEFT ONE DAUGHTER, ANNE ELIZABETH,
AND ONE SON HENRY MILL:
MARRIED SECONDLY ELIZA SUSANNAH
WIDOW OF COLONEL TAUBMAN,
AND DAUGHTER OF BENJAMIN HARENC
OF FOOT'S CRAY PLACE,
IN THE COUNTY OF KENT.

Sacred to the Memory of
WILLIAM HAMILTON BUNBURY,
of Connomara, in the County of Carlow,
late Lieut. Col. in His Majesty's Service,
Departed this life 30th April, 1833.
He married Mary, the daughter of
William Russell, of Brancepeth Castle,
Durham, by whom he left an only
child, Mary Diana, married to her
cousin, Henry Mill Bunbury,
of Marleton House.

The living of Bucklebury is a vicarage, of which Mr. Hartley is the patron.

The parish church of Bucklebury is situated in the village, and exhibits some fine specimens of highly enriched Saxon architecture. The door-way is a very beautiful specimen of the ornamented Saxon arch, embellished with highly wrought zigzag mouldings.

The following historical sketch is prefixed to the parish Register of Bucklebury. It appears to have been written by Dr. Dodwell, archdeacon of Berks and vicar of this parish from 1749 to 1786.

"This Register is the most perfect of any one that I have ever seen. It begins from the first year in which Registers were appointed, that is from the year 1538, when they were

thus kept, by Thomas, lord Cromwell, who acted
to king Henry VIII. in ecclesiastical matters;
ast that filled that office. It appears to have been
r the first 70 years, till the time of Mr. Smallwood,
:hful care of it for about 40 years more. It is
egretted that it is written on paper for the next
ually against reason and authority. At the time
tion, it consisted of three different books, of dif-
ınd sizes, which I methodized and caused to be
:r, (to prevent the loss of the former books, which
' happens,) with additional leaves, which may last

I have likewise collected from the bishop's account of the vicars of this parish, as far as those ı back, and the account is tolerably perfect from imon of Gaunt, bishop of Sarum.

he vicars of Bucklebury, with the dates of their

Hugh of Drayton was
l vicar of Bucklebury
ı, John Spencer
, Richard Markwyk
, John Newman
John Blakefordby
, John Baynton
th, Thomas Batte
Thomas Forde
ı, John Umfray
Richard Same
John Tempest
ı, John Holwey, his
r was
, but the time of his
n does not appear
l, Philip White
John Rothe
, John Whytther
, Philip Powell, his
r was
but the time of his
ın does not appear
h, John Lovegrove
ı, John Loveday
:h, William Smallwood,
all. Calamy mentions
deprived for non-con-
1662, but it is a pal-
pable mistake. He died at the latter end of 1647. Guy Carleton was presented, but being a royalist, could not gain admission from the Triers. Whom they put in his place till the Restoration, does not appear, but then he recovered his right and was instituted.
1660, July 11th, Guy Carleton. He died bishop of Chichester, but voided this church by cession to
1662, Nov. 30th, Thomas Coward
1686, Sept. 17th, Richard Simeon
1701, March 23rd, Richard Simeon, son to his predecessor
1726, July 13th, Martin Annesley
1749, July 29th, William Dodwell. After the time of Dr. Dodwell, the succeeding vicars appear to have entered the dates of their own institution
1786, March —— George Clarke
1788, Jan. 3rd, Richard Coxe
1819, Oct. 9th, Winchcombe Henry Howard Hartley, on his own presentation
1832, Dec. 27th, Thomas Edmunds Williams, the present vicar.



The following are the principal monuments in this church.

On the chancel floor.

HERE LYETH THE BODY OF
Sr HENRY WINCHCOMB Kt
& BARONET
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
THE SECOND DAY OF
DECEMBER
IN THE YEARE OF OVR LORD
1667
AGED 26.

In Hope of the Resurrection unto Eternall Life by Jesus Christ.

Here Lyeth the Body
of
Dame ELIZABETH WINCHCOMBE
(the Wife of
Sr HENRY WINCHCOMBE
Of BURHULBURY in the
County of BERKS Bart)
Who Departed this Life
the 5th day of August
1685.

HERE LYETH THE BODY OF
Sr HENRY WINCHCOMBE
BARRONETT WHO DYED
THE 5TH OF NOVEMR 1703
IN THE 44TH YEARE OF HIS AGE.

On the floor, close to the chancel rails.

NIL ADMIRARI

Here Lyeth the Body of
Frances Lady Viscountess Bolingbroke
DAUGHr OF Sr HENRY WINCHCOMBE BARt
Who Departed this life the 24 day of
October A. D. 1718
Æt 38.

Here lyeth the Body of ELIZABETH
2d Daugh: of sr HENRY WINCHCOMBE
Bart who Dyed the 7th of Sep. 1703
Aged 23.

On the floor, close to the chancel rails.

Here lyes the Body of the Right
Hon^ble the Lady
FRANCES WINCHCOMBE
Daugh^r and *Heiress* to the Hon^ble
THOMAS HOWARD
Earle of *Berks* and Widow of
S^r HENRY WINCHCOMBE Bar^t.
Who died the 22^d of *Decem:* 1707
Aged 66 *Years.*

e north side of the chancel, upon an elegantly carved onument.

Left compartment.

Henricus Winchcombe Baronettus,
Filius
Henrici Winchcombe Militis Baronetti
Et
Honoratissimæ Dominæ, Franciscæ Howard
Thomæ Comitis de Berkshire, Filiæ;
Ex Elizabetha Hungerford
Tres suscepit Filias,
anciscam, Henrico St. John, di Lidiard Tregoz, in Agro Wiltoniensi
Elizabetham Quæ Obiit 7° Sept^bis A. D. 1705.
Mariam, Roberto Packer, de Shillingford in Agro Berceriensi,
Nuptas,
Ex Elizabetha Rolle
Unam habuit Henriettam,
Natus est 10^o Die Iunij, A. D. 1639.
Mortuus, 5° Novembris, A. D. 1703.

Right compartment.

Amissis in Adolescentiâ Luminibus,
Nec Publico,
Nec Privato
Muneri Defuit;
In Senatu Patriæ,
Domi Amicorum,
Serviebat Commodis;
Ea Promovendo
Suam Consolabatur Calamitatem.
Agros Colendo, Villam Reficiendo,
Rure Se Oblectavit,
Animo Verè Magno
Ea Studiosè Excolens
Quorum Fructus in se Percipere non Potuit,
Optimo Parenti
Francisca, Elizabetha, Maria,
Ex Testamento Hæredes
Hoc Monumentum
Posuere.



North side near the chancel upon a handsome veined m monument.

Near this Place
Lie interred the Remains of
WINCHCOMBE HOWARD PACKER, Esq^r^
of Donnington in this County,
who died August 21, 1746, Aged 44.
Likewise of
HENRY PACKER, Esq^r^ who died Oct. 27, 1746, Aged 38.
As also of Mr. ROBERT PACKER,
who died July 4, 1729, Aged 29.
In Memory of these three Brothers
And of their Brother Mr. JOHN PACKER
who was unfortunately killed
In the East Indies in the Year 1727, Aged 22
This Monument w: s erected by DAVID HARTLEY
And ELIZABETH his Wife
their affectionate Sister and only surviving Offspring
of ROBERT PACKER Esq^r^
In the Year of our Lord, 1747.

On the ground near the chancel.

Here Lyeth the body of
ROBERT PACKER Esq^r^ (Youngest
Son of ROBERT PACKER, Esq^r^
Late Member of Parliament
For this County,)
who dyed JULY, the 4th, 1739
Aged 29 Years.

North side of the church.

SACRED
To the Memory
of
WINCHCOMBE HENRY HARTLEY, Esq
late Lord of this Manor
and
Representative for this County
in three Parliaments:
Unshaken attachment to his King and Country,
distinguished his public Conduct,
while his private Virtues
endeared him to his Family, and Friends.
He departed this Life
on the 12th Day of August 1794
Aged 54 Years.
"The Just shall be had in everlasting Remembrance."—Ps. 112, v. 6.

Beside the foregoing on a white marble monument.

Sacred to the Memory of
MARY the beloved Wife of
WINCHCOMBE HENRY HARTLEY, Esq^r
of this Place
Who died April 15th 1786: aged 46 years, and is buried
In the Family Vault beneath.
Her surviving Husband,
Deeply impressed with the sense of her Merits
and his own Loss,
Has erected this Monument as a Mark of
His Regard and Affection.

On a very neat and well executed monument over the family seat.

Sacred to the Memory of
The Rev^d WINCHCOMBE HENRY HOWARD HARTLEY, Clerk
late Lord of the Manor and
for 13 years, Vicar of the Parish,
Who departed this life on the 9th of Sept^r 1832,
In the 45th year of his age.
He was a faithful Pastor,
And a sound Divine;
And daily learned of his Great Master
To be meek and lowly of heart
And to go about doing good
In him the aged and infirm
Have to mourn the loss of a kind friend,
At all times ready to relieve their distresses,
And the Young a Benefactor,
Who liberally provided for their Instruction.
His disconsolate Wife and Children
Have erected this monument to his Memory,
Humbly hoping through the Mercies of their Redeemer,
To rejoin him in the Kingdom of Heaven.

"Remembering The words of the Lord Jesus,
How He said, it is more blessed to Give
Than to Receive."—Acts, Chap. 20, v. 35.

On the floor of the middle aisle.

Here lyeth the Body of M^r RICH^D SIMEON
Sen^r late Vicar of this Parish who dy'd
the 15th day of February 1702 Aged 55 years.
Also M^rs LUCY SIMEON his wife who dy'd
the 2^d day of DECEMBER A. D. 1718 Aged
68 years.
Also M^r RICHARD SIMEON their Son who
Succeeded his FATHER as vicar of this
S^t PARISH & dy'd the 9th day of APRIL
A. D. 1720 Aged 32 years.



On a white marble monument oposite the pulpit.

Near this place are deposited
The Remains of
Sir GEORGE RICH, Bart,
the last Surviving Son of
the Late Field Marshall
Sir ROB. RICH, Bart.
He died the 8th Janʸ 1799
Aged 72 Years.

Opposite the principal entrance on a white marble tablet.

In Memory of Henry Trollope, Esqʳ
late of the City of London, Merchant
Son of Sir Thoˢ Trollope
of Casewick in Lincolnshire, Bart.
He died Decʳ the 7th 1763
Aged 70.

In the churchyard.

Here
Lieth in Dust all that is Mortal
of
ANNE the Wife
of
The Revᵈ JOHN TROLLOPE A.M.
Who exchang'd this Life for a better
July the 23 A. D.
MDCCLVII.

Well may the Tear in Luxury of Woe
From Friends, from Children, and the Husband flow.
This Tomb, o'er which that solemn Look you bend,
Contains the Wife, the Parent, and the Friend,
Whom neither Pity's supplicating Pray'rs,
Nor Virtue, pleading with a Husband's Tears,
Nor Youth, nor Love, nor Piety could save
From the dread Mansions of an early Grave,
Learn hence, unthinking Mortals, learn and know,
How short, how vain, are all our hopes below,
With Patience bear th' Almighty's righteous Doom
And cheerful wait the promis'd Joys to come,
When soon amid yon azure Realms above,
The Blest shall Triumph in immortal Love.

We are indebted to Mr. Lousley, of Hampstead Norris, for the following account of that parish, also of Compton, Yattendon, and Frilsham.

HAMPSTEAD NORRIS

Is an extensive parish, and contains upwards of 5800 acres of land, 1300 of which are wood; it is 4½ miles south-east of Ilsley, 4 miles north-east of Newbury, 13 miles north-west of Reading, and 12 miles south-west of Wallingford; there are seven hamlets, namely Eling, Bothamstead, Langley, Little Hungerford, Hermitage, Well House, and Bucklebury Alley, and the population of the whole is about 1200. The village contains a church and Wesleyan chapel.

Langley hall is a large and handsome house, and was formerly the property of the Heads, who appear, from monuments in the parish church, to have resided there during the whole of the last century. It is now the property of J. T. Wasey, esq., but is at present untenanted.

The parish church at Hampstead Norris is an ancient but a very simple building, dedicated to Saint Mary; the tower is built of stone, and of great thickness, but is not large nor lofty; about half way up, on the north-side, there are, impressed in stone, some characters in lead, which were most probably intended for a date, but we are unable to make them out. On the vane of the weather-cock is the date of 1696. The tower is *ornamented* (if it may be so called) with eight grotesque faces cut in stone. The roof of the church is of rather a curious style, the interior having a circular form without any straight beams, but large pieces of wood framed together in a corresponding manner; on them is marked the date of 1635, at which time it may be conjectured that this part of the building was new *framed* with this peculiar roof. From the architecture and the shape of the windows, it seems that the church has been built at two different periods, namely first the chancel and the church, (except a small space next the tower,) and afterwards that small space and the tower and the church porch. From the broken cross on the porch, and the grotesque heads on the tower, it may be inferred that

the whole was built previous to the Reformation. The porch on the north side is a strong and ornamental building, and more antient and better built than most of the porches of the neighbouring churches.

The bottom of the pulpit, like most of the antient pulpits, is of stone, on each side of the pulpit is a niche in the wall, where one stood the images of two favourite saints. Just within the north church-door is also another niche with a circular top, and where probably formerly was placed the image of the saint to which the church was dedicated. On the left hand side of the communion table is a square niche in the wall, in which might have been deposited the images and other relics used at different parts of the service; on the right hand side of the communion table is a heart-shaped niche in the wall, with the usual place for the holy water, and at the back of which, stood the image of the Saviour. There are four very old lancet-shaped windows in the chancel, at the bottom of one of them, on the south side, is an antient stone seat. On the north side of the body of the church are two or three more lancet-windows, but those on the south side have been supplied by modern wide windows. There are two other antient windows at the entrance of the chancel, at the top of one of which, cut out in the stone-work, is the figure of a monk's head and neck, with ornamental glass. This head is unique, and we do not recollect to have observed anywhere a similar one. In the other window are some broken pieces of stained glass, and on one piece is represented a cherub. The singing gallery seems to have been erected in 1746. In a great part of the body of the church remain the old open oak seats, but which have been filled up in a more modern style with high backs, and closed in with doors. When the walls a few years ago were scraped for the purpose of being white-washed, there was very visible over the south door some writing in Saxon characters, but which no one could decypher. The present font is a modern one, and was given by some of the Matthews' family when they renounced quakerism and conformed to the church. The old font which was much dilapidated was then removed, it is said to have been very curious and much ornamented with figures, and supposed to have been one of the oldest in the county.

ie tower of this church, there is a ring of six bells, with owing inscriptions:—

ll,—In 1703,
Samuel Knight made mee,
The leader of this Ring to bee.
ell,—Henry Knight made mee, 1619.
ell,—Honur God, 1637.
ell,—Samuel Knight made mee, 1674.
ell,—Fear God, Honur the King, T. S., C. D., C. W., S. K., 1685.
ell,—1675.

brass inscriptions on the monuments that were in the , and described by Ashmole, are now destroyed.

have selected the following monuments from this church.

n an elegant white marble tablet, by Westmacott, on the south side of the chancel.

In Memory of
JOHN JAMES Esq^r^
Second Son of Sir Walter James, Bart.
of *Langley Hall* in the County of *Berkshire*
and of Lady Jane James
Sister of the Marquis of Camden
Who died the 24th March 1818
In the 24th Year of his Age
And lies buried in St. Ann's Church, Dawson Street, Dublin.

Could stone articulate, could earth declare
What noble virtues are recorded here
The widowed voice might now be spared to raise
Its feeble numbers, to an husband's praise.
Yet how instructive is it to relate
The painful history of the husband's fate
A fate—that in its mournful progress told
A lesson, equally for young and old,
So young, so gifted, and alas! so blest
By fortune, nature; by the world carest.
Struck in the opening of his brightest day
To fatal malady became a prey.
Ah loved, and more than my existence pris'd
Heaven mark'd thee for its sweetest sacrifice
Two lingering years brought on the fatal hour,
And all the misery, fate had in its power,
When to the world, and to his weeping wife
A long farewell, announced departing life
Still with the tears, the joyful accents fell
From lips where truth was ever wont to dwell.
Dying he said "See what devotion gives!
I know, I feel, that my Redeemer lives."

On a similar tablet near the foregoing.

To the Memory
Of FRANCIS JAMES Esq
Eldest Son of Sir Walter James Bart & Lady Jane James
Of *Langley Hall* in this Parish
Captain in the 81st Regiment and Assistant Adjutant General
In Major General Colville's Brigade of His Majesty's Forces
In *Portugal* serving under the Command of the
Marquess of Wellington
This Promising Young Officer died on the 14th of April 1812
Of the wound he received in the assault of the breach of
The Walls of *Badajos*
Although born to Affluence he chose the Military Profession
And although not more than 24 years of Age
Had seen service in the *West Indies*, in *Denmark*, in *Egypt*
At the Battle of *Maida*, & in *Spain & Portugal*
The Remains of this Gallant Officer were Interred by the
Leave of the Governor of *Badajos*, in the Bastion, Close to
The Breach which he had been one of the first to ascend
His afflicted Parents have caused this Record to be placed in
This Church, as a lasting Memorial of their Irreparable loss,
And of the distinguished Worth & Gallantry of their Son.

On a neat tablet between the foregoing.

To the Memory of
The REVEREND CHARLES DAVY
Author of Cottage Sermons &c. &c.
Whose Remains are deposited in this Chancel.

This Tablet was erected by
the Inhabitants of this Parish
in testimony of the grateful sense they entertain
of his faithful and conscientious discharge
amongst them as Curate, for nearly ten years
of the sacred duties of his Ministry.

"He has fought a good fight, he has finished his course,
he has kept the faith, henceforth there is laid up for him
a crown of righteousness, &c."—See II Tim. 1, v. 7, 8.

About three miles to the south of Hampstead Norris, and near to the hamlet of Wellhouse, is a large encampment called Grimsbury castle; it is of a circular form and was once undoubtedly a place of great strength. Although situated on a high hill, yet it has within the ramparts a most beautiful spring of water which has never been known to be dry. The entrenchment seems to have been extended on the south side of the hill for the purpose of enclosing this spring. This rampart appears to have had only

two entrances, one on the north and the other on the south side; just within the entrenchment, at the entrance on the north, is a small tumulus, which was thrown up either as a mount of observation or defence, or for the purpose of interment. Below the main entrenchment and near to the bottom of the hill, is another entrenchment which extends all round the north side: a ditch also crosses the high ground on the south side of the hill, which was most likely intended as a sort of outwork, it being a considerable distance from the main rampart.

This encampment has never, to our knowledge, been noticed by any of our antiquaries, and being situated in such a lonely and unexplored part of the country, it probably escaped their observation. Several spear-heads have been found buried in the gravel round this entrenchment, and which spear-heads are supposed to have been Roman; it is very probable that this was a Roman encampment,* although we have never heard of coins or pottery being found.† About five or six years ago, in a field at Wellhouse farm, and not more than half a mile from this spot, was discovered the remains of a Roman villa. It had been frequently observed by the ploughmen when ploughing this field, that on crossing an elevated spot in the middle of it they encountered loose and ragged stones which prevented the plough going the usual depth. The proprietor, Mr. Goddard, having caused a part to be excavated, discovered some tesselated pavements, and the flues used for warming the rooms, two skeletons, one of a person more than six feet in height, and two or three Roman coins in excellent preservation, were also found. These excavations were not continued far, but as far as they were pursued the foundations of the building were very distinct, and many more curiosities might be brought to light if the whole were excavated. From the south-west side of Grimsbury castle, there is an elevation extending across a field in the direction for the White Horse at Hermitage, and which we conjecture to be an old Roman road, we could not trace it across Hermitage farm, but it seemed to point towards the end of Sandy-lane. In the

* Most likely an antient British encampment, and might have been used by the Romans, of which frequent instances occur.—Ed.

† The rev. Mr. Cellas, of Yattendon, says that this is a Danish Camp, 1752.



winter of 1837, a spear-head was found, in digging gravel near Grimsbury castle, which is now in the possession of Mr. Selwood of Hermitage.

In a wood called the park, adjoining the village of Hampstead Norris, near the churchyard, is a large entrenchment, or camp, somewhat in the form of a coffin, and at the south-east corner of the same is a fine round antient barrow or tumulus enclosed by a ditch, this barrow, or burial place, is, we think, of British formation, and was cast up in the time of the Druids; the barrow, being in a wood, has never been disturbed by the plough, and is in good preservation. The earth-work was probably cast up about the time that the barrow was made, and is also of British origin. Within the enclosure it is likely that there was antiently a British village; on the north and east sides the ditch is wide and deep, and when secured within by the old British wattling or wood-work, was, for that age, a strong defence. Within this inclosure, towards the north side, are two or three undulations, and, in many places, the rabbits and badgers in digging their holes, scratch out burnt earth and cinders; all these indications confirm our opinion that the spot was once inhabited by the antient Britons, as it is well known that they, at the time of the Roman invasion, had most of their villages in woods. They could, in such situations, best defend themselves from enemies, and their religious ceremonies were celebrated in woods and groves, under sacred oaks covered with the mistletoe.

In the orchard belonging to Hampstead Norris farm, and close to the wood, are the foundations of an old mansion distinctly visible. About ten years ago, when planting some trees, there were dug up a vast number of bricks with pieces of mortar. We think it highly probable that this was the habitation of some of the family of De la Beche, to whom this farm and the manor belonged, and that the wood, called the Park, and the piece of ground called the Dean, was part of the domain belonging to the mansion.

There are two other small barrows near Beche wood, on a piece of land called Wayley, but as the plough continually goes over them, they will soon be entirely effaced.

A few years ago, at the entrance of the village of Hampstead Norris from Compton, where the two roads meet, there stood an

antient ash-house; about a foot below the floor of this ash-house was found the skeleton of a very large-sized man, the teeth were perfect. At the time, many supposed it to be the remains of a man that was missing about 50 years before. About five years ago, and nearly close to the same place, as some labourers were widening the road, they discovered another very large skeleton, about three feet below the surface; the teeth were very fresh and good, and must have belonged to a young person, the jaw-bone was unbroken and much larger than the usual size, the thigh bone was an inch or two longer than that of a person upwards of six feet high, but the most extraordinary circumstance was, that in the back bone was transfixed a flint in the shape of a spear, and which appeared to have been broken off close to the handle. There might have been in the time of the antient Britons a skirmish at the entrance of this lane, in which the warrior was slain by the spear, the head of which was found so fixed in the back.* Should this have been the case, the body must have been interred upwards of 1700 years. The ash-house under which these skeletons were discovered was apparently 200 or 300 years old, and the bodies must have been buried before its erection, as they were lying a foot below the foundation, they were extended on the back from east to west, according to our custom of burial.

There is a very curious old cottage which we believe to be the oldest in the village, if not in the county, it consists of four large oak trees, one at each corner, firmly placed in the ground and braced together and are crooked in such a manner as to form a frame for the roof. The walls from corner to corner are built of brick, but were antiently of dirt. It is said that part of the old house on Eling farm was built in this manner.

In the street, just opposite the churchyard, there used to stand two elm trees of immense size, under the branches of which, the youths of the place had for ages resorted for amusement, but about 40 years ago, having become decayed, they were grubbed up; underneath their roots were discovered several skeletons of grown persons. It is supposed that these were the remains of some unbaptized heretics of former times, who were refused burial in the consecrated ground, but whose remains were de-

* The spear head is in the possession of Mr. King, of Appleford, Berks.

posited as near their relatives as the bigotry of the times would allow.

There is a large pit at Wellhouse called the Swilly hole, in which all the water in the neighbourhood runs.

On Awbury hill the plough often turns up parts of bricks and tiles; also in a field near Bantywick, Roman bricks and coins are sometimes ploughed up. There are also remains of buildings in the common, and in a field near Wellhouse.

At Langley, in this parish, formerly stood a chapel of ease but it fell into disuse at the time of the Reformation, and has long since been destroyed, no vestige of it now remains; the tithes of about 40 acres of Langley farm were given as an endowment, it had a burial ground attached, and at times coffin handles and bones have been dug up; part of the present mansion is erected on the site of the chapel, and the stable and court were part of the burial ground. Many corpses were discovered a few years ago, when digging for the foundation of a wall on the north-west side of the house.

At Hermitage, a hamlet of this parish, a new chapel has been recently built, called Adelaide chapel, it is a neat and pretty building, and was erected by public subscription. Queen Adelaide most generously gave a handsome silver communion service; the marquis of Downshire the bell and a sum for the endowment; the rev. J. Reed, the vicar of Hampstead Norris, has been a most liberal benefactor, having built a new parsonage house at his own expense, and given largely towards the endowment; the rev. Mr. Griffiths gave the prayer book; J. T. Wasey, esq. of Prior's Court, the bible; the rev. J. F. Howard, of Yattendon, gave £50 per annum for five years, and many other gentlemen in the neighbourhood came forward most liberally towards the erection of this house of God. The rev. Walter Sheppard is the present minister.

COMPTON

Is a small parish, consisting of two parts or hamlets, called East and West Compton, at the former of which the church is situated. Although an insignificant village, yet it gives name to a hundred, and is not devoid of antiquities.

In the aisle of the church, near the pulpit, is a gravestone, whereon are plates of brass; the figure of a man in a gown, and his wife in her usual habit, and at their feet this epitaph:—

Of ȳe charite pray for the soules of Richard Pygott & Alys his Wyf on whose soules & alle cristen soules Jhu habe mercy.

On a neat tablet, south side of the church.

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF
THE REV^D HEAD POTTINGER
VICAR OF THIS PARISH
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE JAN. 15, 1829
AGED 69 YEARS.

On the north side of Compton, towards Blewbury, is a vale of land called the Slad. In ploughing, ditching, and draining this land, there have, at different times, been found immense quantities of Roman coins, of almost all the different emperors; the coins are mostly of copper, and of various sizes, and what is remarkable, they lay all over the ground as if they had been sown out of a seed-lip. Neither in the ditches nor drains have there been discovered any remains of pottery or buildings. It is seldom that a ploughman goes a day to plough, or that a labourer hoes, but he picks up several of these mites, or slad-farthings, as they are called, and several persons in the neighbourhood have a collection which they procured for a trifle from the labourers. We think that a greater number of coins are to be found here than at Silchester, or any other Roman station, and yet there is not the least vestige of either villa, town, or station; it is therefore difficult to account for their being found at this place.

On the south side of Compton is an encampment, or castle, called Perborough castle; it is situated on a hill, called Compton Cow Down, and is of a circular form, surrounded with a deep ditch, or entrenchment, the ditch encloses about ten or more acres of ground, and what is very singular (and which we never saw in any encampment before,) in different parts of this enclosure are deep pits or ponds; whether these pits were formerly used to hold water for the use of the garrison in time of

siege, or for what other purpose they were dug, we cannot say, but we conjecture, as there is no spring within the arena, that they were intended to contain water. We can also discover elevated lines stretching across in different directions, and which we believe to have once been the foundations of buildings. The north-east part of the castle appears to have been the grand entrance, at that place the ditch is double for a short space, and deeper than it is elsewhere; on each side of this entrance are the foundations of some strong towers, that were doubtless erected for the defence of the entrance. A few years ago, Mr. Matthews, the occupier of the farm in which the entrenchment is situate, found that the plough was interrupted in its progress, and having dug down, he discovered the foundation of the towers, and dug up several loads of great sarsdon stones, which must have been brought from a distance. They appeared to have been laid regularly over a layer of flints, many of these stones are now lying in the ditch, and the rest of them have been drawn away to repair the roads; also along the bank, especially on the east side, by punching down an iron bar, foundations of stone are discoverable; and there is no doubt of there having once been a wall on that side. Tradition says that there is a subterraneous passage leading out of this encampment to a place called Bantywick, and it is very remarkable, when the teams are ploughing in the field close to the entrenchment on the side towards Bantywick, that over a certain part it appears to sound as if there were some hollow beneath. A vast number of black coals like what are called blacksmith's clinkers, are continually dug and ploughed up around the entrenchment; on the bank are several old yew trees growing in a wild state, and which are doubtless many centuries old. A number of coins were found a few years ago in ploughing up a piece of the old down belonging to Mr. Trumplet, on the north side of the ditch, they were found in one place, and most of them were copper.

On the Cow Down, and adjoining this castle or encampment, are the remains of an old British town or village; the little elevations on the surface distinctly point out the foundations of the buildings of various kinds, and the square and regular form of such elevations, and the many acres over which they extend, shew that it was not a paltry or insignificant place. There is a

inct entrance and street to one part of this town, and on the h-east side are several works, not unlike the antient British ifications, intended for the protection of that quarter. It is r that these buildings extended nearly over the whole of the r Down, but a considerable part is now overgrown with wood. ere is no doubt but this town and the castle or entrenchment e both of one date, and that the latter was intended for a e of safety for the inhabitants, and a protection to the town a time of war. It is remarkable that the old British road ed Grimsdyke which comes through Oxfordshire, and passes river between Streatley and Basildon, (and which is now ble nearly the whole way from Streatley,) crosses this down goes through a part of the town in a direction for Cushridge pice. On the north part of the Cow Down, and near some of elevations are several of the pits similar to those that are in castle, and are supposed to have been for the same object. ien this town flourished or when it was destroyed, we have no ords to prove, nor have we even a name to give it. In Dooms- book there is a considerable place described in this district aving a church, and being a place of importance. This place alled Nachededorne, and is said, in the survey, to be situated the Compton hundred; as we have no other foundations of portance in this hundred, we think it not at all improbable this may have been Nachededorne. Lysons, in their story of Berks, think that the town of Nachededorne, cribed in Doomsday Book, must have stood where East ley now stands, their reason for this conjecture being that ley is omitted in that record, and that it is nearly the only vil- e of any note omitted therein. In every part, by digging, ashes y be discovered, and it is not unlikely, either in war time or by ident, that the whole place was consumed by fire. The site ng unclaimed, became a common pasture for cows for the whole he neighbouring hamlet of East Compton, and so it continued il a few years since, when each householder had a small plot land allotted instead thereof. As the antient Britons built ir towns with hardly any thing but wood, they were easily rnt and destroyed, and we now can rarely trace out their foun- ions, and that only in downs and pastures where the plough s never been. A few years ago was turned up by the plough

in Compton field, a medal which in catholic times was hung roun[illegible] the neck by a string; it is very perfect and in excellent pr[illegible] servation, on one side is the head of our Saviour, and on t[illegible] other side that of the Virgin Mary; the whole is executed in [illegible] very superior manner.

There is a farm called Turville in this parish, which has bee[illegible] rented by the same family for upwards of 150 years, and it is de[illegible] serving of notice that one of them, namely the father of the presen[illegible] occupier, died a few years ago at the advanced age of 96 years; he was born on this farm and lived the whole of his life, and die[illegible] there. There is a very antient and deep well at this farm, which it is said is steaned half way down, but that by time, the founda- tion on which it rested is worn away, and the whole of the steaning hangs together by mortar, without apparently resting upon any thing, in a curious although dangerous manner. The house is several hundred years old, and by far the oldest farm-house in the parish.

YATTENDON

Is a small village situated on the top of a hill, by the road leading from Hampstead Norris to Pangbourn. The manor in the Saxon time belonged to the crown, and it was left by king Alfred to his wife, as may be seen by his will. William the Conqueror bestowed this manor, with others, on De la Beche. This great family were in possession of this manor for upwards of three centuries, and one of them had the liberty to embattle and fortify the house. There appears to have been a ditch or moat made round the same, parts of which on the west side are now visible. John De la Beche also obtained a charter, 12 Edward II., to hold a market here on Tuesday or Thursday, but it has long been discontinued. The manor, after passing through several hands, came into the possession of the Berties, and is now the property of the grand-children of sir John Gallini, an Italian, who having married the daughter of lord Abingdon, obtained possession of the manors of Yattendon and Hampstead Norris; he died full of years, at the commencement of the present century.

The church is a small neat building, and we should suppose built about the time of the De la Beches. The rev. G. Bel[illegible]

in a letter to Rowe Mores in 1760, says the church is "*of the dimensions of Noah's ark*," but in what way the rev. gentleman arrived to this ludicrous conclusion, we are at a loss to determine. The tower is but small, yet it contains a ring of six bells, on which are the following dates and words:—

1st Bell, Richard Welbourn, Esq. 1756, London.—They owe their mirth to me.

2d Bell, 1653.

3d Bell, 1756.—Let your ceaseless Chimes vary to our great Makers new Praise.

4th Bell, 1660.

5th Bell.

This bell appears to be the most antient we have ever yet seen; it has no date, and was most likely cast before Arabic figures were introduced; on the bell are two or three words in Saxon characters, but from ignorance of that language, we are unable even to copy them.

6th Bell, 1627.—Henry Knight made mee.

There is an antient stone font lined with lead, and under the gallery three very old oak seats, probably as old as the church. There is a little curious ancient oak chest in the chancel, it is surprising that there are no niches or places for holy water, but there are two projections on which images stood, it is probable that the altars were bricked up at the Reformation. In the east window are some fragments of painted glass, on which are depicted two venerable looking heads, and two birds and a dog; in the north window in the church are three doves and two lions, and in a window near the gallery, a part of a face with a very bright and penetrating eye, and a painting of two suns.* There

* Ashmole's description of these windows is as follows:—

"At the foot of the east window, on the left hand, are the pictures in glass, of a man in a short blue fur gown, and two women in blue gowns kneeling also behind him, and behind them two sons and two daughters. The like figures seem to have been painted at the right hand of the said window, opposite to the former. At the bottom of the window, on glass, is this inscription.

Orate pro bono statu Johannis.....
CCCC..... & *Regis precat.*

In the south window of the chancel is this inscription.

Orate pro bono statu Johannis Noreys, *Armigri, qui istam Ecclesiam* *nova edificavit.*

In the north window, westward, is this inscription.

Orate pro bono statu Johannis.....

was formerly a rood loft in this church, just above the pulpit, whe[redacted] the holy rood and all the other images of superstition we[redacted] kept, the staircase to which is still in a perfect state. At t[redacted] south entrance there is on each side of the door, a curious he[redacted], and eight very ugly heads at the top of the tower. There is a[redacted] an old and singular porch at the door leading into the tow[redacted], it is rare to see a porch in such a place. The church is dedicat[redacted] to St. Peter, and a revel is held on old St. Peter's day, (Ju[redacted] 10th) and in the memory of man it was very much kept up, b[redacted] it has lately fallen off considerably. Tradition says that a batt[redacted] was fought in Yattendon fields, near Manstone farm, on Ju[redacted] 10th, and that the same terminated at a place called England[redacted] Stile, and that the game of single stick has been ever since ke[redacted] up at Yattendon revel in memory of the victory, but beyon[redacted] this tradition, we cannot in any antiquarian or historical accou[redacted] discover the least trace of this battle.

The following entry is in the register, "The rev. Thomas Carte, editor of Thuanu's History of his own Times, and author of a life of the great duke of Ormond, and a general History of England, by which, and other pieces, he approved himself one of the best writers of his time, died at Caldecot, near Abingdon, on Tuesday, April 2nd, and was buried at Yattendon, in a vault on the north side of the chancel, the 11th, 1754, by me, George Bellas." The first rector mentioned in the register was Thomas Southwick, buried Feb. 5th, 1559, and there were 15 from that time until 1758, and one of them, namely Francis Sayer, was rector 47 years.

On a neat tablet, south side of chancel.

M. S.

SIR JN° ANDREW BAPTISTA GALLINI,
Knight of the Holy Roman Order of the Golden Spur
and Lord of the Manor of Yattendon & Hampstead Norris,
born at *Florence*, in *Italy*, on the 7th of Jan'y 1728
and died in *London* on the 5th of Jan'y 1805.
Also
LADY ELIZ[TH] PEREGRINE BERTIE GALLINI,
eldest Daughter of the *Earl of Abingdon*
married with Sr Jn° Andrew Baptista Gallini
leaving Issue one *Son* and two *Daughters*
and died on the 17th of Aug't 1804
Aged 73 Years.

On the chancel floor.

Hic infra jacet sepultus
FRANCISCUS SAYER, M.A.
et hujus Ecclesiæ
per Quadraginta et septem Annos
Rector
Obiit vicesimo secundo die
Aprilis Anno Domini 1711
et Ætatis suæ 76.

On a plain veined marble tablet, surmounted with the family arms, in the chancel.

In Memory of SIR JOHN NORREYS, Knight, the Second Son to Henry the First Lord Norreys of Rycot, who in the 14th of Eliz. being sent Embassador into France, & managing his Business with Prudence and Honor, was by reason thereof and his Father's sufferings for his Mother's sake aduanced to the dignity of a Peer of this Realme; this Sir JOHN NORREYS, that Valiant & expert Soldier, so famous in his time for his Valor and Military knowledge was first trayned up in those exercises in the Civil Wars of France under Admiral Coligni, next in Ireland under WALTER, EARL of ESSEX, then Served in the Netherlands Vnder MATHIAS, *Arch Duke* of Austria, after that under JOHN, DUKE of Loreine, next Vnder Count WILLIAM of Nassau, and in 27 Eliz. 12 Aug. was by the QUEEN constituted Colonel General of all the Horse and Foot, then to *pass* out of England for the Relief of Antwerp then besieged by the Spaniards, before the end of which month, he had another Commission from Count Maurice of *Nassau*, and the same Year was empowered to treat with the States General of the United Provinces, for the entertaining of such Bands of English Foot, as by the QUEEN's Instructions were appointed to serve in those parts. Several Commissions he likewise had from ROBERT, Earl of Leicester, after he was constituted General of the English Auxiliaryes in those Province, viz. two in 28 Eliz. and one in 29 Eliz. in 30 Eliz. being then President of the Council in the Province of Munster in Ireland, he had a Commission bearing date 11 Oct. giving him Authority to constitute such principal Office, as well by Sea as Land, as he should think fit for the withstanding all Hostile Attempts & for the Defence and Protection of that Realm. In 33 Eliz. he was constituted Captain General of those Auxiliaries which were sent in ayd of King HENRY the Fourth of France, aginst his Rebellious Subiects in Britanny, and having deported himself with great Prudence and courage in all those eminent Imployments, to the no Little Honor of the English Nation as well as his own Name, He departed the life at his House in Yatenden July the 3d 1597, and in the 68th Year of his Age.

Memoriæ Gratia Monumentum Restaurauit NORREYS BERTIE ARMIGER.

In the churchyard, on the north side of the church, on a stone is the following curious epitaph to William Pencott, late of Frilsham, farrier, who died Feb. 9th, 1789, aged 78 years.

Good Ale and Beer he loved exceeding well,
And while in health of both he took his fill;
But no one grieve too much within their mind,
Although he is gone he has left some Beer behind.

The pulpit is of excellent workmanship, well finished, and quite an ornament to the church.

The rev. J. F. Howard is the present rector, and also of Frilsham.

By the road side as you go from Yattendon to Pangbourn, and near the kiln, is a small well, called by the cottagers the miraculous well, because it is always quite full and never runs over; and in the ground opposite the rectory is a very deep well; it is said that just before you get to the water there is an excavation, and which was probably made in troublesome times to hide valuable things. Some years ago as a team was ploughing in a field near Yattendon kiln, the ground gave way and some large chalk mines were discovered, which appeared to have been made many previous centuries. We investigated these mines, and as they are now closed up, we shall give a description of them. The entrance to the mine appeared to have been out of a pit near the kiln, and the interior was dug out in the most ingenious and workman-like manner; it extended under ground to a great distance, and was divided into large rooms, with pillars of chalk left as a support between the rooms, the whole had a most wonderful and grand effect. From what we could judge of the quantity of chalk taken out, the excavation must have been in progress for several centuries. It appears to have been visited or used about the year 1700, as there were several initials and dates of about that period cut in the chalk; but it is very extraordinary that none of the present inhabitants seemed to have been aware of the existence of these subterraneous rooms, although some of them must have known persons who might have remembered that period. This kiln is thought to be the oldest in this part of the country.

In a field called Green Ditch, at Everington in this parish, as some men a few years back were sinking a chalk pit, they came to the ruins of an old building, which was supposed to be the remains of a Roman villa, and in grubbing the wood around, a vast quantity of Roman bricks and tiles were dug up, and there are now vast quantities of them lying in the hedge, it is very probable that many Roman antiquities lie buried here. A coin or two have also been found.

FRILSHAM

ıll parish between Hampstead Norris and Bucklebury.
:h is dedicated to St. Frideswide. The porch and
e built in a very neat and substantial manner at the
f Mr. Floyd, in 1834. The old tower was of wood.
al architecture of the church is Gothic, but formerly
some Anglo-Norman entrances.
pit and other fittings of the interior are of a very plain
We observed that the old way of securing the prayer
chains fastened to the pews, is still used in this

s an excellent trout stream and a mill at this place, but
summer of 1838 the springs were so low that no water
mill for several months, and it is stated that about 100
the springs were equally low, and that a duck made its
ır the water-wheel, laid her eggs, and hatched a
l that during the whole of the time not a drop of water
wheel.
three years ago, as some men were widening the road
the mill, they discovered a skeleton about three feet
surface, the teeth were as white and fresh as when
d: many were the conjectures as to how the body came
there were many rumours of a man having been missed
ıeighbourhood about 60 years ago, and it was supposed
emains; but we think it more likely to be the remains
rarrior that was slain in one of the petty skirmishes, so
n antient times.

ALDWORTH

ttered village 4 miles from Ilsley, 9 miles from Wal-
ınd 9 miles from Newbury. It is situated on a high
here is not a spring or a stream of water in the parish;
ıot many wells, and those are of a vast depth, consequently
itants are often much distressed for want of water.
ıt thing that struck our attention was the yew tree, it is
:et in circumference at 3½ feet from the ground, it is
to decay, and the branches are dying away at the top;

it is supposed to be of the same age as the church, part of which is more than 700 years old.

The outside of the church has nothing peculiar, but at the south-east corner, just above a large stone pillar, is a curious and excellent figure of an owl. The east window appears to be an antient one, underneath it there are two figures of the human face, at the west end there is a similar window, and a like one at the south side.

The church door on the south side is very curious, it is in a singular manner edged all round with iron, and a small door opens in the large one, just sufficient to admit one person at a time.

Of the extraordinary monuments in this church we shall afterwards give a more detailed account.*

At the foot of the tomb in the body of the church is a pedestal whereon in catholic times stood an image; there was a similar pedestal at the head of it, which has recently been removed. Over the centre arches of the church, facing the south, are two projections, whereon, no doubt, images formerly stood, underneath one is the carved figure of a dog, and under the other a grotesque head. In front of the singing gallery is a curious iron candlestick of the date of 1690, ornamented with figures of griffins and swans, with the initials of names, branching out in the form of a genealogical tree.

In the chancel in the wall is an antient altar, with the place for the holy water, above is a small loft for the image.

There are two antient stalls in the chancel, one on each side of the entry, one of them is now turned into a seat, but the other is still perfect, they are of handsome grained oak, ornamented with two fleur-de-lis, one at each end, and carved with two griffins and a bird entwined in a beautiful manner with a serpent.

The screen is exceedingly well carved, and has the date of 1660, there is a projection on the left hand where probably

* The vulgar tradition is that four Johns were buried here, and they are described as follows:—John Long and John Strong, John Ever-afraid and John Never-afraid. They say that John Ever-afraid was afraid to be buried either in the church or out, and was consequently buried under the wall, where the arch appears on the outside by the south church door; we understand that the remains of the figure in this arch are bricked up, in consequence of the wet injuring the foundation of this side of the church.



ALDWORTH CHURCH.



once stood the image of some saint. The pulpit is a fine piece of carved work, and ornamented in a rich and superior manner; the reading-desk is also beautifully ornamented; the sounding-board is a splendid piece of carved work, such as is rarely to be seen in a village church.

It has been stated that a branch of the Ikeneld way, leading from Streatley to Speen, came through this place, and Mr. Hearne says he discovered two milliariæ, or Roman mile-stones, fixed many yards in the ground, one of which lies a mile from Streatley, and the other between that and Aldworth, it is said they were to be seen in 1760, but we have not been able to find the stones or trace the road: whether the modern road is the site of the Roman road, or whether it is in some other direction through the woods, we have not been able to ascertain, and must at present leave it to future search. The old mansion at Beche farm is now levelled with the ground, and on part of the site a modern one, on a small scale, has been lately erected. The old mansion, or castle, (as it is called) appears to have been of large dimensions, foundations of stout thick flint walls have continually been discovered in the yards and grounds adjoining.

The ditch called the Devil's Ditch, which is traced by Dr. Plot all through the county of Oxford, and which he says seemed to point to the village of Goring, appears to have crossed the river Thames near a house and timber-yard called Holey's, it then proceeds in nearly a straight direction to Wood's farm, where all trace of it is lost for about a mile, when it is again very visible in a wood opposite Westridge, and continues very distinct until it reaches De la Beche farm, along which, and toward Turville, it is in beautiful preservation; a short distance before it reaches Turville farm it makes a sudden bend, and crosses the Turville road, and is very apparent across the ploughed fields towards a farm occupied by Mr. John Matthews, of Compton, it is then lost sight of for two or three furlongs, but again visible in a ploughed field near West Wood, it then crosses Compton Cow Down, and after that, is lost in the ploughed fields, but we do not doubt that it may again be traced if diligence were used. Many are the conjectures as to the use of this dyke, after well considering the matter, we are fully persuaded that it is an old British road or hollow way. It appears that Beche

mansion or castle was built so that this rampart or ditch mig form one of its squares and be a defence on that side. This dy runs nearly through the middle of what we have described as t remains of an antient British town on Compton Cow Down.

A few years ago, as Mr. Selwood, of Pebworth farm, w grubbing some beech trees which stood on the bank of the dyl he discovered two very curious battle-axes, they were made steel and were much corroded, but at the end of both of the there was a peculiar sort of hook. We never saw, in any pla of antient arms, a weapon similar to this, and we should imagi that it belonged to the Britons. One of these curious batt axes was presented by Mr. Selwood to Mr. King, of Applefor who has placed it among his other curiosities, of which he h a most valuable collection.

It is said that a silver coin of William Rufus was found in t foundations round Beche farm, a few years ago.*

This interesting parish contains in its church more numero monuments of Crusaders than are to be found perhaps in a other church in England, with the exception of that of t Temple, in London, and, what is surprising, they are entire unnoticed in Stothard's elaborate work on Monumental F figies.† This omission may arise from the village of Aldwor being one of the most retired and rural in Berkshire, a rarely visited by the traveller. It lies in the hundred of Com ton, and deanery of Newbury. The rectory belongs to t master and scholars of St. John's College, Cambridge, who patrons of the vicarage.

Lysons state that "the manor of Aldworth, which at taking of the Norman survey had belonged to Theodoric, goldsmith, was conveyed in 1276 by Thomas de Clare to Rob de Musgros, and confirmed to him and his heirs the same ye by the royal charter. Hawise, daughter and heir of this Robe brought it in marriage to the noble family of Ferrars, of Cha ley, together with the manors of Hampstead Norris, former called Hampstead Ferrars, and other estates in this neighbou hood. There was another manor in Aldworth, which, with th of De la Beche, in the same parish, belonged, as early as the reig

* For the above particulars of Aldworth we are also indebted to Mr. Lousley.

† "Stothard's Monumental Effigies of Great Britain" is the authority to which we h referred for many particulars.

of Edward II. to the De la Beches. Edmund De la Beche, archdeacon of Berks,* who was of this family, was committed to Pomfret castle in 1322, for being concerned in the escape of Maurice, lord Berkeley, and lord Audley, from Wallingford. Sir Nicholas De la Beche had the superintendence of the Black Prince's education, and was afterwards lieutenant of the Tower."

The church is of the most plain and homely character, and possesses scarcely the slightest architectural distinction. From its unpromising exterior, a stranger would by no means anticipate that its interior possessed so rich a treat for the antiquary. By the contrast and surprise, the effect is greater, at least if we judge from our own sensations. To enter so unpretending and retired a church, and to find oneself surrounded with gigantic effigies of grim Crusaders in full panoply, produces a feeling of astonishment and awe, and carries the mind suddenly and unexpectedly back to remote antiquity, and to the chivalrous age of the soldiers of the cross and the paynim wars. In giving an account of these effigies, it will be relevant to remark that the costume and armour do not always accurately designate the era when the persons commemorated flourished. Instances occur of monuments erected many years, nay centuries, after the death of the individual, and where the armour and costume are that of the period of the erection of the monument, and not of the age in which the deceased lived; we think, that on an examination of the effigies in question, it will be found to have been so in the present instance.

The first Crusade, as is well known, originated in the year 1095, from the fanatical enthusiasm of Peter the Hermit, and the last took place in the latter part of the 13th century, under the guidance, chiefly, of our Edward I. then prince Edward, and of Lewis IX. of France: the occupation of Palestine by the Christians terminated in 1291, extending through nearly two

* In these times, an ecclesiastic of high birth fully participated in the tastes and pursuits of laymen of the same rank, whose sole amusement and occupation when not engaged in war, was hunting. It may be mentioned as a curious illustration of antient manners, and the habits of the dignified ecclesiastics of the period, that pope Alexander III, by a letter to the clergy of Berkshire, dispenses with their keeping the Archdeacon in dogs and hawks during his visitation. An archbishop of York, in 1321, carried a train of 200 persons, who were maintained at the expense of the abbeys on his road, and he hunted a pack of hounds from parish to parish.

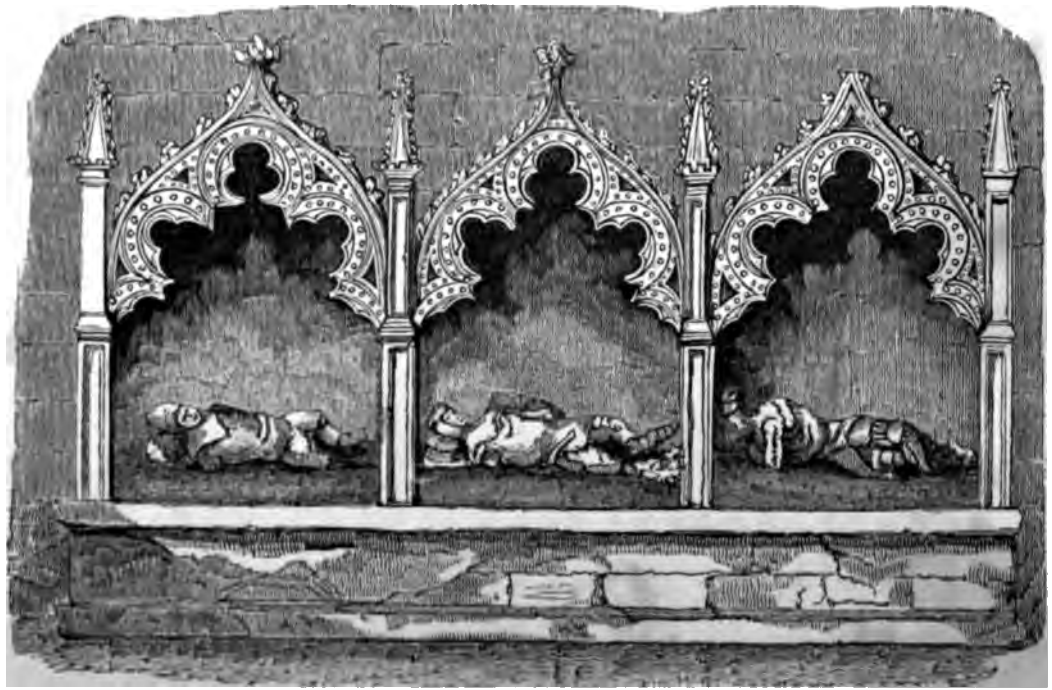
centuries; but although that was the last Crusade, yet the spirit for such romantic enterprises did not quite expire till some years after. Our Henry IV. rather from policy than religious enthusiasm, took the cross and contemplated a Crusade, which he was prevented carrying into execution by death. The Order of Knights Templars was totally suppressed in this kingdom, by Edward II. in the year 1311 or 1312. Some persons, and even writers, have confounded Knights Crusaders with Knights Templars, or have, without sufficient discrimination, applied the same terms. Every Knight Templar took the cross, it was the special badge of his order, and it was his duty to guard the Holy Temple at Jerusalem, and to protect pilgrims resorting there, but every Knight Crusader was not a Knight Templar.

There does not appear on these monuments any specific indications that any of them were those of Knights Templars, but only of Crusaders. One peculiar distinction observable in many of the *early* Knights Templars, is that the sword is suspended from the *right* side. With respect to Crusaders, there were many who had only taken the cross and the vow to fight in the Holy Land, but had never proceeded to their destination; instances are on record, where persons who through indolence, illness, or other circumstances, had not performed the military pilgrimage to the Holy wars, left bequests to any person who would perform this duty in their names, a sort of vicarious execution of their vow, which it was hoped would satisfy the compunction of a death bed, and relieve the soul of the deceased from the pains of purgatory.*

From a comparative examination of the monumental effigies of Crusaders, we apprehend that the following distinction may be drawn; we do not assert that there may not be exceptions, but we think that the distinction will in general be found correct:— In the monumental figures of those champions of the cross who actually embarked in the Holy wars, they are represented with the hand on the sword, about to be drawn, or partly drawn, and sometimes with the sword out of the scabbard, and in a posture

* Amongst the numerous privileges conferred on Crusaders, "they obtained a plenary remission of all their sins and the gates of heaven were set open to them without requiring any proof of their penitence, but their engaging in this expedition."— Robertson's Charles V. vol. i. p. 288.





ON THE NORTH SIDE OF ALDWORTH CHURCH.





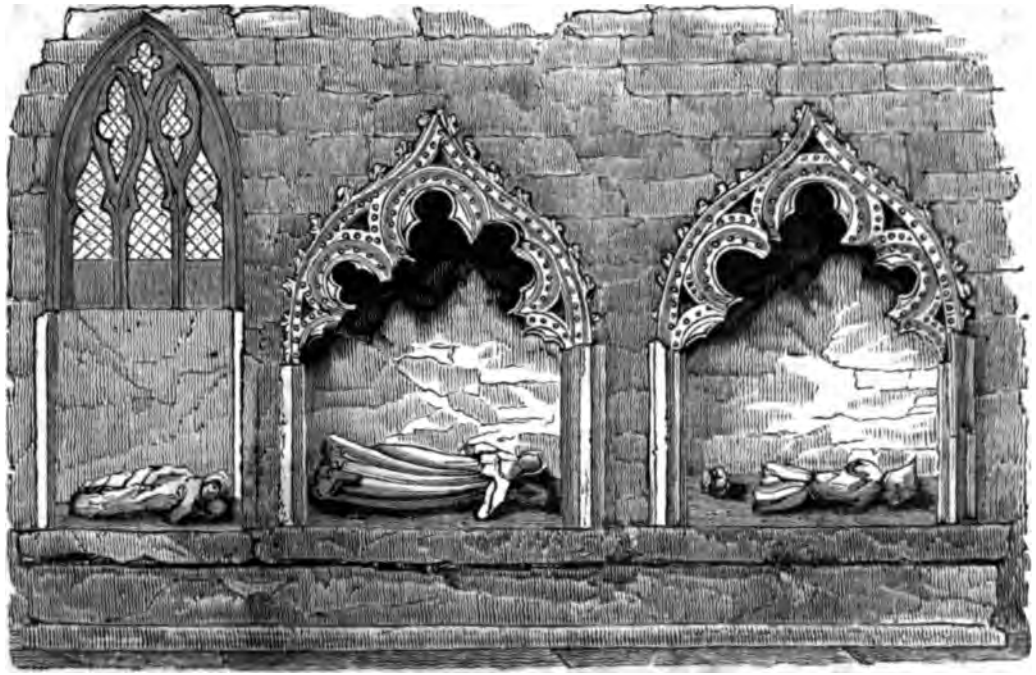
of attack or defence. Illustrations of this hypothesis will be found in the monuments of Robert, Duke of Normandy, (eldest son of the conqueror) in Gloucester cathedral, of William Longsword, the younger, earl of Salisbury, in Salisbury cathedral, of Robert de Vere, earl of Oxford, in Hatfield Broad Oak church, Essex, and of Richard Wellysburne de Montfort, in Hitchendon church, Bucks, and of a Whitworth, in Whitworth churchyard, Durham. In the latter figure, the sword is drawn, the shield raised, and the champion in a posture of defence, trampling on a prostrate figure, supposed to represent an infidel or Saracen.

These warriors, at least most of them, are historically known to have been personally engaged in the Holy wars. The effigies of those who had only taken the cross and did not proceed to Palestine in defence of the Holy Sepulchre, are also sculptured with the cross legs, the almost invariable position, in England,* on monuments of a Crusader, but the sword is not grasped, and the hands are generally in a posture of supplication.

That such was the case, may be observed by the monuments in the Temple church, of Geoffrey Magnaville or Mandeville, earl of Essex, who never was engaged in the Holy wars. He being under sentence of excommunication, was, in extremis, invested with the habit of a Knight Templar, in the hope that an admission to that Holy Order would, in some degree, absolve him from the consequences of dying excommunicated; in return, he endowed the Templars with some rich possessions. Also in those of Robert, lord Roos, in the same church; he only assumed the habit of a Templar, and died in 1231. Of Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke, in Westminster abbey, who, there is every reason to suppose, never actually embarked in a crusade; that he was too young to have joined the last crusade, that of prince Edward, in 1270, may be inferred from his having been killed in a tournament in 1325. Also the monuments of sir Richard de

* "The cross-legged figures on sepulchral monuments are not of an earlier date than the reign of Stephen. The fashion survived the Holy wars for some years. That those figures represented Knights Templars, is a notion long since exploded. It has been supposed that they were not only of people who went to Palestine as soldiers or pilgrims, but of those who vowed to go, or who contributed to the expense of the Crusades. The supposition is, in some degree warranted by the fact, that there are instances of women in this singular posture on monumental remains. The fashion of cross legged figures on tombs, appears to have been pretty much confined to England."—Note to Mills's History of the Crusades, vol. ii, p. 8.

feet 8 inches in breadth. There is, likewise, another large altar tomb, with a male effigy reclining thereon, with a round helmet and leathern surcoat. It is generally supposed that the other monuments were erected by Nicholas De la Beche to the memory of his ancestors, or other members of his family. We think that this conjecture is probable, the style of sculpture, armour, and dress, being that of the fourteenth century, rather than of an earlier period, and is an instance to which we have before alluded, that the costume on monuments is frequently that of the period of their erection, and not of the time when the subjects of such monuments lived. It was at the commencement of the fourteenth century that the plate armour was adopted, that of an earlier epoch being chain armour. Four of the effigies were cross-legged, three of them, as appears from the prints in Ashmole, crossed by the left leg lying straight, or nearly straight, over the right knee, a position different from any which are represented in Stothard's Monumental Effigies. The effigy at the east end of the north aisle, is larger than the rest being upwards of 7 feet in length. The shield is broken off, and both arms are so much mutilated, that it is difficult to say what the original attitude indicated, but it would appear as if intending to represent some act of exertion; the helmet or head piece of this figure is, we think, unique, and very different from that of the others, and the armour is more highly ornamented and elaborately worked; there are the remains of a small figure at the feet of this statue. The effigy next to this is in the attitude of repose, the right hand resting on the breast, and the left bent, so as to sustain the shield, the head piece is oval, ornamented at the margin, and the neck protected by a gorget of chain armour; a lion, in excellent preservation, lies at the feet: this effigy is in length 6 feet 6 inches. The right hand of the next figure at the west end of the same aisle, is grasping the handle of the sword, as if about to draw it; the length of the figure, now much mutilated, is about 6 feet; this head piece is also round. The heads of both these figures recline on cushions, the surcoats fit closely to the body, and descend in front in lapels, covering part of the thighs. The fourth effigy, that on the east end of the south aisle, was crossed by the right leg passing over about the instep of the left, the right hand appears to be in the act

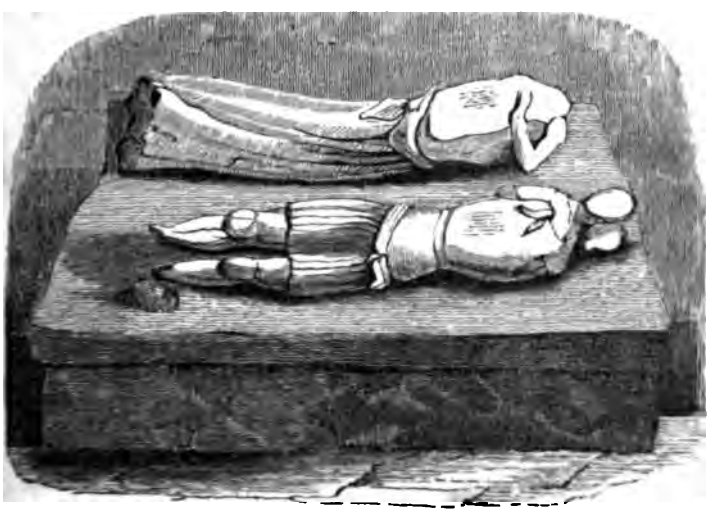


ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF ALDWORTH CHURCH.





In the North Aisle, Aldworth Church.



Beside the Pulpit, Aldworth Church.



of drawing the sword, the left is broken; this helmet is oval, but terminating at the top in a small point; the surcoat of this figure hangs loosely, and appears to have been suspended from the shoulders by a leather strap over the right shoulder, brought under the left arm; the head rests on a helmet. The next is that of a female in a long loose robe, with her left hand on her breast, but the right is broken off; her head resting on a pillow which was supported by figures, much mutilated, of angels. The effigy of the third tomb is so much destroyed, that it presents little more than a torso. The shields are short, those of the earlier Crusaders were of a long kite-like shape, reaching from the shoulder to the knee, or below. Applying the distinction which we have urged, we may conclude that at least three out of the four Crusaders represented in this church were personally engaged in the Holy wars, and must have flourished prior to 1291, the termination of the last Crusade, and antecedently to the possession of this property by the De la Beche family; if, therefore, these monuments were erected by Nicholas De la Beche, it is probable as stated by Lysons, that he did so in commemoration of some of his distinguished ancestors or relatives, who were not actually buried there, and might have perished in the Holy Land. The effigies on the north and south sides of the church are placed in ornamental arches.

We have given the foregoing description, not only from personal inspection and admeasurement, but we have also referred to the engravings in Mores' Berkshire Queries, taken from Ashmole; the figures, since those drawings were taken, have evidently been much mutilated, and consequently the description which we have now ventured to submit to our readers will not be found, on an inspection, to be fully ascertainable from the present appearance of these monuments; but we think that sufficient remains, to confirm the general correctness of the account which we have attempted to give.

In the Gentleman's Magazine, 1760, vol. xxx. p. 458, is an article respecting these monuments, it is stated that "these knights must have been buried here before Edward II.'s reign, for in the beginning of his reign he caused all that were of that order in England to be seized in one day, namely Jan. 7th, 1307,*

* In the above extract from the Gentleman's Magazine, there appears an inaccuracy as to the date, Jan. 7th, 1307, because Edward II. did not accede to the throne till July of that year.



and that in 1312 the whole order of Knights Templars was suppressed, and stripped of all their possessions." This observation seems erroneously to conclude that the monuments in this church were those of Knights Templars, whereas it is more probable that they were only Knights Crusaders.

From Church Notes collected by Mr. Sheldon, of Berks, 1678, *inter* Wood's MSS. cap. 10, is the following:—"On the outside of this church, under an arch of very antient work against the south wall, lies the statue of a man in armour, cross-legged, at this present almost even with the ground."

Ashmole, in his Berkshire Notes, in the Herald's College, says, "of this family, whose chief seat was at Aldworth, John is the first of whom I find any considerable mention, 9th Edward II. In that and the 11th year of the same reign, it appears he had two charters of free warren granted him. Contemporary with John was Nicholas De la Beche."

It may, we think, be inferred, that this family had been settled, if not at Aldworth, at least in Berkshire, for a long time previous to the reign of Edward II. and had been distinguished and favored by the crown, by reason of the grants in the 9th and 11th years of that monarch's reign of free warrens in all the demesne lands and lordships in Berkshire. There appears to have been four De la Beches whose names are mentioned, viz. John, who received the grants of 9th and 11th Edward II., Nicholas, his contemporary, who in the same year received a like grant of free warren of his lands in Suffolk; these two, therefore, must have been men of distinction and influence about the year 1316 or 1317. Nicholas lord De la Beche, the last male survivor of the family, died about 1347, who, it is conjectured, had a brother Philip, as he, with this Nicholas, had a grant of free warren of their demesne lands in Berks, in the 9th of Edward III. We should conjecture that these two last were sons of either John, or the first-named Nicholas, probably of the former, who was the owner of the lands in Berks, and that they obtained a renewed grant of the free warren on the descent of the estates in Berks to them, because if it had been the first-named Nicholas, there scarcely seems a sufficient reason why he should have had a fresh grant of free warren. If this conjecture be correct, we have then four De la Beches (independent of the churchman,

Edmund De la Beche, the archdeacon of Berks, and clearly none of the monuments are to him.) As there are now existing four monuments to Knights Crusaders, two of whom were most likely John and the first Nicholas, who probably lived early enough to have been Crusaders, and the other two, with the fifth under the south wall of the church, (now concealed) were probably ancestors of John and the first Nicholas; the remaining two male monuments are probably those of Philip and the second Nicholas, which have no emblems of Crusaders, and to which neither of them were likely to be entitled. We therefore think it may be concluded that these monuments of the *Crusaders* were erected by Philip, or the second Nicholas, to their father or uncle John and the first Nicholas, and three other ancestors, or collateral relations, and that the other monuments, not Crusaders, were erected probably one in memory of his brother Philip by the second Nicholas, and the other to the second Nicholas by his widow, who afterwards intermarried with sir Thomas Arderne, and was afterwards married away forcibly by sir John de Dalton.

The subjoined communication is by a correspondent, from whose researches much interesting information has been obtained:—

In a brief account of some of the parishes and churches of the counties of Berks and Oxon, drawn up by Richard Simons, and dated 2nd May, 1644, the writer, after describing the situation and bearings of the church, tells us—"In ⁊ East ende of ⁊ South yle, did hang a table fairly written in Parchment, of all the names of this family of De La Beach, but the Earle of Leicester comeing wth Q̃ue. Eliz. in progresse tooke it downe to shew it her & was never brought againe."

"King Edw. 3rd. gave the Castle in this parish about a q^{r} of a myle from ⁊ Church Southwards, to S^{r} Nicholas De la Beach for his service done at ⁊ battail of Poictiers in Fraunce, who lived in this Castle and called it by the name of Beach Castle.—A farme now adjoyning to the ruines of this Castle is called Beach Farme elonging to ⁊ Lord Lovelace."*

* The above is a transcript from the original MSS. in the Harleian Collection, British Museum.



BEENHAM

In the hundred and deanery of Reading, lies on the north side of the Bath road, about 8 miles from Newbury. The manor was purchased in 1793 by the rev. sir Charles Rich, bart. previous to which it had been, for a considerable time, in the marquis of Annandale's family. It is now the property of major-general Dickson.

In the church is a neat monument opposite the pulpit, on the top of which is represented a book lying open, with the words "The History of the Holy Bible." The following is the inscription:—

Juxta
Reconditum est quod mortale fuit
THOMÆ STACKHOUSE, A: M:
Hujusce Ecclesiæ per Annos XIX
Vicarii;
Qui pro Christiana Fide,
Strenuus admodum Propugnator,
Non sine Gloriâ
Militavit
Qui plus scire volunt Scripta ejus
Consulant.
Ex hac Vitâ, gratâ alterius Vice,
Corpore Suo Solutus
Emigravit
Octobris Idibus A: S: MDCCLII
Ætatis suæ LXXII.

The rev. Thomas Stackhouse, author of the History of the Bible and of many other most excellent Works, was vicar of this parish; his writings shew him to have been a very learned and extraordinary man. That no account of his life has been given to the public, may sufficiently be accounted for by his habits of intemperance. He was fully sensible of the great evil of his example, but he could not withstand the temptation; in other respects his character was unimpeachable. It has been said by some old persons who could remember him, that he would often stray down to the public house called Jack's Booth, situate on the Bath Road, and stay there for two or three days at a time,—it is even said that a great part of his History of the Bible was written in an arbour at the bottom of the garden. He has been known, more than once, to come from this favourite

house on a Sunday morning, and when in the pulpit, to ask pardon of God, with tears and lamentations, for his foolishness and wickedness in this his besetting sin, and then in the most earnest and public manner, he would beg of his congregation to join with him in soliciting forgiveness, and afterwards would proceed to warn them against the great wickedness of drunkenness, yet after all, he would very probably, in a week or two, yield to the like temptation. The following ludicrous affair, it is said, occurred towards the latter part of his life; he had strayed down to Jack's Booth, and partaken rather freely of the essence of sir John Barleycorn, when a friend of his coming past in his carriage, observing him, reminded him that it was the day of the Visitation (a circumstance which had quite escaped his memory) and that his presence would be required, his friend offering to take him, he immediately got into his carriage, dressed just as he was, and somewhat elevated; and on his arrival at the Visitation, he very unceremoniously thrust himself forward towards the bishop, his lordship observing him, enquired who that shabby, dirty old man was, when he in a loud voice, vociferated "I am Thomas Stackhouse, vicar of Beenham, who wrote the History of the Bible, and that is more than your lordship can do." It is said that the reply quite upset the gravity of this solemn meeting.

WOOLHAMPTON*

In the hundred of Theale, lies 7 miles east of Newbury. The manor, which belonged to the Knights Hospitallers, was granted in 1544 to William Wollascot, esq. and continued in his family above two centuries; it then passed by marriage to the earl of Fingal, who had a seat there. Lord Fingal sold the estate to John Crewe, esq. It is now the property of the earl of Falmouth.

In the church, on the north side of the chancel, lies a coffin-shaped stone of black marble, having round the edges in *Saxon* characters the following inscription:—

"Hic Jacet Ricardus de Herelond Rector
Hujus loci conditor cancelli."

At the entrance of the church is a similar stone, but the characters around it are entirely obliterated.

* Ollavintone in the Domesday Survey

In the chancel is the usual niche for the holy water.

The font in this church has plain round-headed arches, except ing the front one, in which is a rude figure in bas-relief, with its left hand resting on its breast, and the right hand holding up a key.

On an elegant monument left side of the chancel.

Sacred to the Memory
Of the Reverend WILLIAM DEANE,
near thirty years rector of this Parish,
Vicar of *Brimpton*, in this County,
and Rector of *Dinton*, in the County of *Wilts*,
Obt 2d January, 1800, Æt 67.

"*The Just shall be had in everlasting Remembrance.*"

Sacred also to the Memory
Of HANNAH DEANE, Relict of the said
Reverend William Deane,
Obt 15th of September, Æt 45.
"*In Cœlo quies.*"

And of
JANE DEANE, their only Daughter
and Sole Heiress, Born the 2d day of Decr 1791,
Died the 25th day of February, 1806.

Near the church is a very neat Roman catholic chapel, and in the village there is a chapel belonging to the independent persuasion.

WASING*

In the hundred of Faircross, lies 8 miles to the south-east of Newbury. The manor, which had belonged to the college of Le Vaux, near Salisbury, was granted by king Henry VIII. in 1543, to sir Humphry Forster, of Aldermaston, in whose family it continued till the year 1607; it is probable it was then purchased by John Blacknall, esq. who died seised of it in 1625. The heiress of Mr. Blacknall married sir Ralph Verney, ancestor of the late earl Verney. The manor is now the property of W. Mount, esq. The manor house, a handsome building, is a conspicuous object from the London road; near to it, is the parish church, a small ancient structure, the interior of which is very neat.

* Wasinge in the Domesday Survey.

. Mount is the patron of the rectory, which is in the ıry of Newbury.

the church are the following memorials:

a neat white marble monument north side of the chancel.

IN A VAULT BENEATH
ARE DEPOSITED THE REMAINS OF
WILLIAM MOUNT, *ESQR.*
WHO DIED ON THE 15TH JUNE 1815,
AGED 62 YEARS.

On the south side of the chancel.

Beneath are deposited the remains of
JOHN MOUNT, ESQ.,
Who died on the 12th day of July, 1786;
Aged 61 Years;
And also of JOHN and EDMUND
Sons of the above John Mount,
(By a second Marriage)
The former of whom died
On the 27th of October, 1796,
Aged 21 Years
And the latter on the 13th June, 1811,
Aged 33 Years.

On the chancel floor.

Here lyeth the Body of
WILLIAM INNES, M.A. &
RECTOR of this PARISH 33 Years
Who departed this Life the
28th of Novem. 1717
Aged 68 Years.

BRIMPTON.*

ıis parish is in the hundred of Faircross, and in the deanery ewbury; it lies about 6 miles south-east of Newbury. The ›r belonged formerly to the Brimptons, afterwards to the ly of Stoke. The Wollascots, a Roman catholic family, ssed it for nearly two centuries; upon the death of the last male, it passed by marriage to the earl of Fingal, who sold ıout the year 1786. It is now the property of the earl of ıouth.

* Brintone in the Domesday Survey.

The Knights Templars are said to have had a preceptory at Brimpton.* When the survey of Domesday was taken there were two churches in this parish, one in Roger de Lacy's manor, the other in Robert Fitzgerald's. Adjoining to a farm-house about half a mile from the church, are the remains of an antient ecclesiastical building. The great tithes of this parish, together with the patronage of the vicarage, have long been annexed to the manor. Hide-end is a hamlet in this parish.

In the church are the following memorials.

To the Memory of
Two Infants, Daughters
Of the EARL of FINGALL,
The Rt Honble Lady
HENRIETTA MARIA PLUNKET,
Who was born Augst the 3d 1758,
And died March 21st 1760.

And the Rt Honble the Lady
ANNA MARIA PLUNKET,
Who was born Janry the 1st 1763,
And died the 8th
Of the same Month.

"GOD's holy Will be ever done."

Beside the foregoing.

Here lieth the Body of MARTIN WOLLASCOT, Esq.
who departed this life the 22 Novr in the 52 Year
of his Age, and of our Lord 1713.
Here also are deposited the remains of
MARY WOLLASCOT, Wife to the said
MARTIN WOLLASCOT, and Daughter of
Sr FRAs THROCKMORTON, Bart.
Of COUGHTON, in the
County of *WARWICK*,
who departed this life
the 24 Octr 1708,
Aged 40.

R. I. P.

ALDERMASTON.†

This parish is in the hundred of Theale, lies south of the Kennet, on the borders of Hampshire, 8 miles south-east of

* "Here seems to have been a house of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, tempore Henry III.

"In Cartulario de Redyng, fol. 34 b. Quietum clam cum placiti inter fratrem Lucam, Magistrum, et Hospitelarios de Brimpton et nos de uno Messuagio in Redyng, A.D. 1254.

"Nicolaus Magister de Brimpton is witness to several deeds of which the late Edward Rowe Mores, esq. had copies." Tanner Not. Mon.

† Helderemanstone in the Domesday Survey.

ıry. The manor is said to have been given to Richard
l, by king Henry I. (Leland.) It certainly was in the
ion of one of that family and name so early as the year
Col. Rot. 13 Henry III.) and continued to belong to his
lants in the male line, till about the year 1358, when it
by marriage to the De la Mares, and from them about
› the Forsters. Sir George Forster, who was sheriff of
ıire and Oxfordshire in 1516, married Elizabeth, the
er and heiress of John De la Mare, esq. whose father, sir
s De la Mare, served that office in 1476, 1481, and 1490.*
hrey Forster, esq. the father of sir George, was sheriff
same counties in 1475; he is described of Aldermaston,
ler, but it appears that he was of Harpsden, in Oxford-
which was the family seat before they became con-
with Aldermaston. Sir Humphrey Forster, son of sir
›, was one of the esquires of the body to king Henry VIII.
scendant, Humphrey Forster, esq. who served the office
·iff of Berks, in 1579 and 1592, was honoured with a
om queen Elizabeth in 1601; sir William Forster served
ce of sheriff in 1608, and his son, Humphrey Forster, esq.
0; in 1620 he was created a baronet.† Sir Humphrey,
t of this family, filled that office in 1704. William, lord
l, having married Elizabeth, only daughter of William
:sq. sole heiress, in right of her mother, of sir Humphrey
r, bart. (on whose death in 1711, the title became extinct,)
› possessed of this manor, which passed to Ralph Con-
esq. by his marriage with Charlotte, only surviving child
l Stawell, by his wife Elizabeth.

:rmaston is now the property of William Congreve, esq.
:eral relation of Ralph Congreve, esq. above-mentioned,
ied without issue. Mr. Congreve was sheriff of this
in 1808.

ıe list of Sheriffs for this county in Berry's Genealogy of Berks, we find Richard
re served this office in 1189.

ores' Berkshire Queries, Note, p. 2, it is stated that "Mr. Ashmole married the
sir William Forster, of Aldermaston, kt. relict of sir Edward Stafford, of Brad-
ınd of sir Thomas Manwaring, kt. sometime Steward of Reading, by which match
ıd a considerable property in the county." This is erroneous, as sir Humphrey
ıe brother of lady Ashmole, had 16 children, it is therefore evident that although
ole's lady was the *only* daughter, she was not the *heiress* of sir William Forster.



Aldermaston House, the seat of Mr. Congreve, was almost wholly rebuilt by sir Humphrey Forster, in 1636. A large stack of chimnies in brick-work, variously ornamented, evidently indicates the remains of a much more antient mansion. The windows of the hall, and of some other rooms, are decorated with coats of arms in stained glass, representing the union of the families of Achard, De la Mare, Forster, &c. The hall is very lofty, and surrounded by a spacious gallery. The staircase is a model of domestic grandeur, being elaborately carved and adorned with large statues from the heathen mythology. The whole of the interior is deserving of particular attention, as all the original decorations remain in a pure unaltered state. Close to the house is the venerable and picturesque parish church, with its wooden spire.

The benefice of this parish, which lies in the deanery of Reading, has been called a vicarage, but improperly, there is no income whatever annexed to it, and the minister has been appointed ever since the reign of queen Elizabeth, by the lord of the manor, without any particular form, and without receiving institution from the bishop. The lord of the manor, has, ever since that period, received all the tithes, both great and small, and which were formerly appropriated to the priory of Sherbourn, paying a small quit rent to Queen's College, Oxford.

In Bacon's Liber Regis, it is erroneously stated that the patronage of the vicarage, as it is there called, is vested in that College.

Robert Dixon, minister of this parish in 1706, built four almshouses for poor widows.

We have copied the following memorials in this church:

The tomb of one of the antient family of Achard is denoted by the arms, but the inscription is destroyed.

In the Forster chapel, which is situate at the south side of the church, is a beautiful alabaster tomb, upon which are lying a knight in armour and his lady; the knight having on the SS collar with a portcullis pendant, his head rests on a helmet, at the top of which is a hind's head issuing out of a crown; a small serpent lies between the legs, and the feet rest upon a fawn. The head of the lady reclines upon pillows supported by an angel at each side, her dress is the usual one of the time, with a

loose flowing robe, near the feet on her left side is a little dog represented as playfully biting the robe.

On the north side of the monument are the portraits of 8 sons in armour, standing in various attitudes; on the south side there were the figures of 8 daughters, (now only 7,) in the costume of the age; at the west end are the arms of the family supported by a son and daughter kneeling, and at the foot of the monument were the effigies of 3 sons (now only 2,) in armour. Round the upper ledge is this inscription:

Here lyeth Sir George Forster Knyght son and heyre of Humfray Forster Esquire, Coson and one of the heyres of Sir Stephen Popha; Knyght and Elizabeth wif of the same Sir George daughter and heire of John Delamare esquier son and heire of Thomas Delamare Knyght wiche Elizabeth Died the vij day of December in the yere of our Lord God M°CCCCC°XXXI and wiche Sir George dye in the yere of our Lord God

Beside the above on a brass plate.

Here lyethe Willm Forster Esquyer Lorde of Aldermaston Sonne and heyne of Syr Humffraye Forster Knyght and Jane his Wyffe one of the Daughters of Syr Anthony Hungerford of Downeamney Knyght wch Willm deceased the Xth daye of January Anno Dm 1574 and his said Wyffe the daye Anno Dm.

The following are on the floor of this chapel.

Dedicated to the precious memorie of foure Virtuous Sisters, Daughters of Sr Hvmphry Forster, Bt and of Anna his wife, viz: Anna who dyed May the 16 1628, Aged 18 Yeares 5 Monthes, Mary dyed September the 9th, 1638, aged 14 yeares and ten monthes, Bridgett dyed May the 29th, 1637, aged ten yeares and one moneth, and Margarett who dyed February the 19th, 1023, Aged one yeare & 6 moneths.

Like borne, like new borne, here like dead they lye,
Foure virgine sisters, deck'd with pietie;
Beautie and other graces, which commend,
And make them all like blessed in their end.

Here Lieth The Ladie
Anne Forster Wife To
The Late Sr Humphrie Forster
Knt & Bart
& Had issue 16 Children.
She died Octo the 12th,
A D 1673.

HERE LYETH THE
BODY OF MR. JOHN
FORESTER, WHO
DEPARTED THIS
LIFE DECMBR THE 12TH,
1674.

ANNE CONGREVE,
LADY OF THIS MANOR
DIED JULY THE 18TH, 1780.

Over an elegant freestone tomb, against the south wall.

HERE LIETH RALPH CONGREVE, ESQ. ONLY SON OF COLONEL RALPH CONGREVE, SOMETIME COMMANDANT OF THE GARRISON OF GIBRALTAR; WHO WAS 3D SON JOHN CONGREVE, ESQ. OF CONGREVE, IN THE COUNTY OF STAFFORD. HE MARRIED THE HONBLE CHARLOTTE STAWELL (SOLE HEIRESS IN RIGHT OF HER MOTHER OF SIR HUMPHRY FORSTER, BART.) BY WHOM HE BECAME POSSESSED OF THIS MANOR, OF WHICH FOR MORE THAN SIX HUNDRED YEARS HER ANCESTORS HAD BEEN LORDS. HE DIED ON THE 6TH OF DECEMBER, 1775, AGED 57 YEARS.

On the south side of the chancel.

Here lyeth Mary, the Daughter of Sr Mark Stewart, Married to Sir William Forster, An. Dom. 1594, who had by him One Son and one Daughter, she was buried An. Dom. 1661. Sir Humphrey Forster, her Son, Married to Anne, Daughter of Sir William Kingsmill who had by her 16 Children, was buried here, An. Dom. 1683, Aged 68. William Forster, Son of Sr Humphrey Forster, Married to Elizabeth, Daughter to Sr John Tirrell, who had by her 5 Children, was buried here An. Dom. 1660, Aged 36. Steward Forster, Son of Sir Humphrey Forster, left 2 Sons, was buried here An. Dom. 1686, Aged 45. William Forster, Son of William Forster, was Buried here An. Dom. 1677, Aged 25. John Forster, Son of William Forster, was Buried here An. Dom. 1683, Aged 25. Humphrey Forster, Son of Sr Humphrey Forster, Bart eldest Son to William Forster, who married Judith, eldest Daughter to Sr Humphrey Winche, Bart was buried here 1682, Aged 9. William Forster, Second Son of Sr Humphrey Forster, was buried here An. Dom. 1683, Aged 1.

On a black marble slab on the chancel floor.

In Memory of
ROBERT DIXON, M.A.
Tenth Son of
Percival Dixon, of Fenwick
IN NORTHUMBERLAND
He was buried here A.D. 1723
Aged 75.
He was minister of Aldermaston
40 Years
At the same time
Rector of Wolhampton
48 Years.

On an elegant marble monument north side of the chancel.

In Memory of
The Honourable WILLIAM STAWELL
Only Son of the Right Honourable
WILLIAM LORD STAWELL
BARON of SOMERTON
By Elizabeth his Wife, only Daughter of
WILLIAM PERT, of Arnold's
Hall, in the County of Essex, Esq.
And Sole Heiress in Right of her Mother to
Sir HUMPHRY FORESTER
of this place, Bart.
He died in France and was here interr'd A.D. 1740.
From a dutiful Regard to the Desire of
His much afflicted Mother
(Who was buried near him, A.D. 1748)
And a sincere Affection to Himself
This Monument is erected
By the Hon. CHARLOTTE STAWELL, his Sister
Now the Wife of
RALPH CONGREVE, Esq.
A.D. 1760.

On the same stone.

On the 24th of July, 1762, Died
The Hon^ble^ CHARLOTTE CONGREVE
Whose Affection as a Wife, and
Whose Sincerity as a Friend
Deserve the most lasting Remembrance.

CHADDLEWORTH*

Is in the hundred of Faircross, and lies about 9 miles north-west of Newbury. The manor was given by William the Conqueror to Robert D'Oilly. Having reverted to the crown, it afterwards became the property of Eleanor, the queen of Edward I. In 1283 it was given to the priory of Ambresbury, in Wiltshire. In 1544 it was purchased by Henry Brouncker, of William Sharington, esq. groom of the privy chamber, to whom it had been granted on the dissolution of monasteries, whose heir, William Brouncker, sold it in 1576 to William Nelson, esq. chief prothonotary of the court of Common Pleas, whose family became extinct in the male line, by the death of Thomas Nelson, esq. in 1748. The next proprietor, Richard Walter Nelson, esq. was son of Richard Walter, esq. who married Mr. Nelson's

* Cedeledoirde in the Domesday Survey.

eldest daughter and co-heiress; the other daughter died unmarried. Elizabeth, the last survivor, bequeathed all her interest in this manor and other estates to her nephew, Richard Walter, esq. requesting that he would take the name of Nelson in addition to his own. In 1837, the late proprietor, George Kerr Nelson, esq. the second son of Mr. Kerr, who took the name of Nelson by desire of his uncle, sold the estate to Bartholomew Wroughton, esq of Woolley Park.

The singular custom by which a widow recovered her free bench, forfeited by incontinency, well known to have been formerly in use in the manor of Enborne, prevailed also in this manor.

The family of Tate had also an estate in this parish, called the manor of Frankleyns, which is not now known, but it is most probable that it formed part of the estate late Mr. Nelson's, in which are some fields called by that name.

Woolley* Park, in this parish, where was formerly a free-chapel, is the seat of Bartholomew Wroughton, esq. The manor, which had belonged to the abbey of the Minories, in London, was granted in 1540 to Richard Tate. Not many years afterwards, it was purchased of the Tates by John Read and Margaret his wife, who in 1566 conveyed it to Thomas Tipping and Bartholomew his son. Woolley Park continued to be a seat of the Tipping family till the death of Bartholomew Tipping, esq. in 1798. It is now the property of Bartholomew Wroughton, esq. in right of his mother, Mary Anne, niece and sole heiress of the late Mr. Tipping. The house built by Bartholomew Tipping, esq. in 1690, was much altered in 1799, by the father of the present proprietor, from designs of Mr. Jeffrey Wyatt.

The rectory was given to the monastery of Poughley, by the founder; it is now vested in the cathedral church of Westminster. The dean and chapter are patrons of the vicarage, which is in the deanery of Newbury.

The south entrance to the parish church is through a very handsome zigzag Saxon door-way, at the right side of which is the niche for the holy water. There are the remains of a stone cross in the churchyard.

* Olvela, in the Penceslas Survey

In the church are the following memorials:—

In the chancel on the east wall.

Near this lyes the body of
THOs NELSON, Esq lord of this mannor
who departed this Life the Sixth day of April
in the year of our Lord 1748
leaving behind him his loving Wife ISABELLA
second Daughter of FRAs MERICK, of NORTHCUTT
in the County of Middlesex, Esq. and ELIZABETH his Wife
Heiress of George Trussell, Esq.
of Hammersmith, in the same County
who, out of Honour and Respect to his Memory
hath Erected this Monument to the Ashes
of Her Beloved Husband, aged 63.

On the south side of the church.

In Memory of
BARTHOLOMEW TIPPING
of Woolley, Esq.
who Departed this Life
the Sixth day of June
A.D. 1718
Aged 70 Years.

Upon the same stone.

Also MARGARET the
Wife of the above said
Bartholomew Tipping, Esq.
She Departed this Life the
10th day of October, 1711
Aged 72 Years.

To the Memory of
BARTHOLOMEW TIPPING
Esq; (late of Woolley, in this
Parish) who departed this Life
the 11th day of Nov. 1737
Ætat 65 Years
Likewise of MARY, his Wife
who Died Dec. the 22d
1731, Ætat. 47.
Also of JOHN, Son of the aforesaid
BART. and MARY TIPPING
Ob. 22 May, 1736
Ætat. 23.
And also their son GEORGE
who Died in his Infancy.



On the north wall of the chancel are two panels of black marble, with a partition between them, on each of which is the figure of a woman kneeling, and of seven children behind.

Under this Tombe lyeth interred the Body of
MARY NELSON Daughter of STEEVEN DUCKETT
Esq. and Wife of THOMAS NELSON of this
Parrish, Esq; who on the 13th of March, Anno
Domini 1618, exchanged this life for a better,
beinge of the Age of 30 Yeares, and
had issue 7 Children.

If thou religious art that passest by,
Stay and reade on: as thou art soe was I.
If thou art blest with children, and dost crave
In God's feare them trayned up to have,
Reade on agayn, and to thy selfe thus tell
Here she doth lye that was my parallell.
Or art thou bounteous, hospitable, free,
Belov'd of all, and they belov'd of thee,
Meeke, full of mercy, and soe truly good
As flesh can be, and spronge of gentle blood.
If thou art soe, to thine own deare selfe saye
Who on her grave my monument did lay.
But if to these thou knowst thy selfe but chaffe,
Passe on thy waye, reade not my epitaphe.

Here lyeth the Bodye of DOROTHY NELSON
wife of WILLIAM NELSON Esq: cheefe Prothono-
torie of the Common Pleas, who departed
this life the last day of April in the yeare of our
Lord 1619 being of 86 Yeares
And had issue 7 Children.

It was not many yeares that made mee good
Neither was it the vigor of my blood
For if soe then my goodness might have past,
And as I did, have ceast to be at laste.
But 'twas the grace my Maker did enshrine
In my meeke breast, which cleerely there did shine
As my soule now amongst the chosen blest
Under this stone although my bones doe rest.

North side of the chancel.

In Memory
of the Rev. CHARDIN MUSGRAVE, D.D
who died January 29th, 1768
Aged 44 Years.

Also of CATHARINE MUSGRAVE, his widow
Daughter of the late
BARTHOLOMEW TIPPING, of Woolley, Esq.
who died February 21st, 1795
Aged 60 Years.

South side of chancel.

TO THE MEMORY OF
EMMA SARAH, THE BELOVED WIFE OF
PHILIP WROUGHTON, Esq.
AND DAUGHTER OF DAVID CHAMBERS, Esq.
WHO DIED MOST DEEPLY AND SINCERELY
LAMENTED BY ALL WHO KNEW HER
FEB. 22ND 1839, AGED 29 YEARS.

On the north wall of the church.

In Memory of
BARTHOLOMEW TIPPING
Late of Woolley
In the County of Berks, Esq.
who Died
July 11th, 1757, Ætatis 48
And also of
ANNE TIPPING his Wife
The Daughter of PHILIP HENSHAW, Esq
late of *Bussock Court* in the County of *Berks*
who died the 2nd day of Jan. 1775, Aged 68.

In the family seat, north side of the church.

In Memory
of
BARTHOLOMEW TIPPING, *of Woolley*, Esq.
who died 13th December
1798
Aged 63 Years.

TO THE MEMORY OF
THE REVD PHILIP WROUGHTON, M.A. OF WOOLLEY PARK, WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
IN THE FIRM HOPE OF A BLESSED ETERNITY, JUNE 6TH, 1812, AGED 54;
UNIVERSALLY LAMENTED.

On the floor of the middle aisle.

Under this Stone lys the Bodys of WILLIAM
SAUNDERS and SUSAN his Wife, and Daughter of
HENRY ALWORTH, in the County of Oxon, LL D.
She dy'd the 22d day of June, A.D. 1717,
aged 58 years. He dyed the 4th day of March
A.D. 1720, in the 72d Year of his Age, and leaving
no issue, gave great part of his Fortune for
the Education and Cloathing Eight poor Boys;
and also *Five Pounds* per an. to the Vicar of Chad-
leworth, to be continued for ever.

Pauperes sunt mihi heredes.

Mr. William Saunders, who died in 1720, founded a school at Chaddleworth for the education of 8 poor children; 2 of Chaddleworth, 2 of Brightwaltham, 2 of Leckhampstead, 1 of Fawley, and 1 of Great Shefford. The children are clothed and apprenticed out of the funds of the charity. Mrs. Susan Winn, sister of Mr. Saunders, left £10 per annum for educating 10 poor children of Chaddleworth.

"Pougheley or Pochele, in or near the parish of Chaddleworth. In the place where an old hermitage had been at Ellenfordesmere or Clenfordesmere, Ralph de Chadeleworth, about 1160 founded a priory for canons regular, of the Order of St. Augustine, to the honor of St. Margaret.* This was afterwards called Poghele, and endowed, temp. Edward IV. with £50 per annum, or as it was found a little before its suppression with £10 per annum in spiritualities, and £61 11s. 7d. in temporalities, possessions amounting in the whole to very near the sum mentioned by Speede, viz. £71 10s. 7d. It was one of the smaller monasteries dissolved by Cardinal Wolsey, but after his fall, was given (23 Henry VIII.) to the abbot and canons of Westminster in exchange for 100 acres of land, part of St. James's Park, conveyed by the abbot and convent to the king, and in that church it has continued under all its several endowments."†

JAMESII COLLECTAN' Vol. xxvi. 273.

Transcribed by Mr. Mores.‡

TRANSLATION.

This Agreement was made at the chain of St. Peter, in the 26th year of the reign of Henry III. son of king John, (1212) between William, prior of Poghley, and the convent of the same place on the one part, and Lambert, the son of Bernard of Farringdon and Matilda his wife on the other part:—viz. That the said Lambert will give and insure to the said prior and convent and to their church of Poghley, the whole tenement which he has held in Farringdon, with its appurtenances, and with all his chattels found in the said tenement, for a perpetual alms, saving the sevice of the feudal lords, and that he would put the same in full seizer (or possession) of all the aforesaid, on the Wednesday next after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross of the same year, and the said prior and convent have granted unto the said Lambert and

* A meadow adjoining the ruins of the priory is still called Margaret's mead.

† Tanner's Not. Mon.

‡ Mores' Berkshire Queries, Appendix, p. 161

Matilda, the hereafter mentioned sustenance, from their house, and in their house of Poghley every day of the life of the said Lambert and Matilda;—viz. Every week from their buttery 16 loaves of bread, which they call '*Miche*,* of due weight, according to the said house, and 8 loaves which they call *Biss*, likewise of just weight, and as many gallons of beer, viz. 16 of the first and 8 of the second, so that it may be at the option of the said L. and M. to receive the said loaves and beer every day singly, or all at once in a week for the week, or in portions as they may wish, as long as they observe the just quantity; and sufficient salt likewise. They shall have, moreover, their commons out of the kitchen of the said convent, in the porridges and dishes as two canonicals, and one free man serving in the same house, and for their portion of cheese and candles, one mark per annum. Or if they should prefer, they shall have out of the said kitchen every day, porridge of pot-herbs or of pulse, viz. 2 platters, and instead of the commons, and portions, and other things, 30 shillings yearly, receiving the aforesaid pence out of the treasury of Poghley at two periods of the year, viz. at the feast of St. Michael, one moiety, and at the feast of St. Mary, in March, another moiety, so that as often as the said sum shall be paid in arrear, without their consent, they shall have the full commons out of the kitchen of Poghley, like two canonicals of the same convent, until their arrears shall be fully paid: nor shall they receive less of their aforesaid pay, although they shall have long enjoyed the commons of victuals as was aforesaid, unless they shall wish of their own accord to return any thing. It shall also be at the option of the said L. and M. when they should wish to take and to have a form of commons out of the things aforesaid, that they shall be allowed, if they should wish, also meat, or fish, or other things for their commons, by the way of perquisite through the hands of the cook of the said house, to cook one portion with its accompaniments in the kitchen of the said convent, and when cooked to receive it back. They shall also receive for their clothes and shoes, yearly, out of the said house, 20 shillings sterling at the same periods. Moreover they shall be allowed to have one cow, or two cows, among the cows of the said prior and convent, as well as in the cow-shed, as in the pastures at Poghley, likewise 20 sheep, or 30, among the sheep of the aforesaid, securing to the said L. and M. the property and profit, as well of the cows as of the sheep. The said prior and convent shall also find for the said L. and M. 3 loads of bush faggots and 3 quarters of coals, yearly, against winter, and a suitable house to live in at Poghley, which they will keep and repair at their own expense, nor shall they be able to impose any work upon them against their will, and it shall be allowed to the said L. and M. to have with them a man or maid servant in their own service in the same place, nor shall the said prior and convent, or any one on their part, be able to demand any service from him or from her.

Moreover there shall be deducted from the former of the said couple surviving reputably, a third part of all the aforesaid, securing to him the whole remainder of all the aforesaid. But if the said Matilda shall survive the said Lambert her husband, and shall sue for her dowry out of the afore-named

* "'Miche," which loaves paid a rent to some manors."- *Barclay.*



tenement, she shall wholly forfeit every article of this agreement, because this agreement will wholly cease to an incontinent person: and both deceasing, this agreement shall wholly determine or terminate in all its articles towards any one whatsoever, and the said prior and convent shall stand acquitted from this agreement for ever. But when one or both of them shall die, the said prior and convent and their successors shall in their own behalf in every respect, as in behalf of the professed canons of the said house, settle in perpetuity, or entail, the received endowments.

The parties have given their troth for faithfully observing all the aforesaid, under a penalty of 10 marks, and to this written deed have hereunto put their signs or marks.—These being the witnesses:

Robert of Chaddleworth; Robert of Kingston; Reginald, vicar of Chaddleworth: Robert of Poghley; Elias of Bagnor; Ralph Ginel; Thurston of Eton; Nicholas, chaplain of Farringdon; John and Adam, deacons; Walter, clerk, and others.

On the back of the indenture it runs thus:—

Be it known to all to whom this present writing shall come, that I, William, prior of Poghley, and the convent of the same place, induced by divine love, and by the advice of the venerable Master W. de Meriton, (Merton) formerly archdeacon of Berks, and at the petition of Lambert de Farringdon and Matilda his wife, we have granted to William, their son, to take the habit of our religion, in our house, whensoever he shall wish. Moreover because his aforesaid father and mother, moved by the Divine Spirit, have now renounced the world and worldly things, lest the said William should wander about in the world destitute of their help and in want, moved by the same love we have granted to the said William to live continually with us in the house of Poghley, as long as he shall be of a chaste and quiet conversation, and to use in common with us, daily, our table in the refectory, or the table of our free serving men without the refectory, as he would prefer, so however that he becomingly obey us, and half a mark yearly out of our treasury, at the chain of St. Peter, should he be willing to sojourn with us entirely through the year, until he shall please to take the habit of our religion, and regularly to live with us: but if in an unbecoming manner he shall turn out incontinent, or unruly, or rebellious, he shall forfeit his maintenance, as well as the half mark, (6s. 8d.)

In testimony of this matter, we have delivered to them this document, retaining a similar one, confirmed with the seal of the said Lambert. These being the witnesses:

Bernard of Farringdon. —

Lambert of Farringdon, 26 Hen. III. = Matilda.

William of Farringdon, monk at Poghley.

site of the monastery is situate in a very retired spot, among ds, about a mile and a half from Chaddleworth. A small ion of the priory still exists, and constitutes part of the farm- se; the walls are about 3 feet in thickness. At the back of the house is the following curious stone figure :—



he estate is held on lease under the dean and chapter of stminster, by John Thomas Wasey, esq.

CHIEVELEY.*

his parish is in the hundred of Faircross, and lies about 5 es north of Newbury. The manor, which belonged to the ot and convent of Abingdon, was the joint property of sir lter James James, bart., and William Capel, esq., of Prest- y, in Gloucestershire. The grandfather of sir W. J. James, the grandfather of the late Christopher Capel, esq., married

* Cavel in the Domesday Survey.



two co-heiresses of the name of Pocock, whose family had possessed the manor of Chieveley for a considerable time. John Thomas Wasey, esq. is the proprietor, by purchase of sir W. J. James's moiety of this manor. The great tythes which were formerly appropriated to the abbot and convent of Abingdon, and the advowson of the vicarage, which is in the deanery of Newbury, are annexed to the manor.

In the parish church are the following memorials:

In hope of the Resurrection to Eternal Life, within
this chancel lie interred in separate Graves, MARY, the
Wife of GILES POCOCK, Esq. ELIZABETH, MARY, and REBECCA
their Daughters, and JOHN their Son, with MARY, his
Wife. Also ELIZABETH, MARY, REBECCA, and HANNAH
Daughters of the said JOHN and MARY POCOCK, together
with JOHN POCOCK, their Son, and JOHN, their
Grandson.

Likewise the Rev. JOHN MATHER, D.D. President of Corpus
Christi College, in the University of Oxford, who married
REBECCA, Daughter of GILES and MARY POCOCK, and CHARLES
HEAD, Esq. who married HANNAH, Daughter of JOHN and
MARY POCOCK, above mentioned.

Also WILLIAM MATHER, the Son, and MARY, REBECCA,
HENRIETTA, ELIZABETH, and CATHERINE MATHER, Daughters
of JOHN and REBECCA MATHER.

In order that the Memory of her Deceased Relations
might be the Longer Preserved, and that their Remains
as well as her own, might not hereafter be incautiously
Disturbed, this Monument was erected by her Executor,
in compliance with the Directions of the abovenamed
CATHERINE MATHER, who Died the 12th of March, 1807, having
by her Last will and Testament bequeathed to the Vicar
and Churchwardens of this Parish the sum of Four
Hundred Pounds, the Interest of which is to be applied
for ever to provide Instruction in Reading and Writing
and to purchase Books for Six poor Boys and Six poor
Girls, residing in this Parish: and also the sum of Twenty
Pounds to be distributed among the Poor immediately
after her Decease, together with similar Bequests to
the same Amount and for the same Purposes, to the
Vicar and Chapel Wardens of the Chapelry of
Leckhamstead.

In Memory of
RICHARD FINCHER, Esq. Who Died
Feb. the 28, A. D. 1681
In the 71 Year of His age.

In Memory of
Mrs. LUCY FINCHER,
who Died the 22 of March, A.D. 1687
In the 3 yeare of Her age.

Benefactions to the Poor.

Some person or persons unknown gave a messuage and school-house, with 2 cottages, and about 11 acres of land in the parish of Chieveley, the rents to be expended in the reparations of this church.

Mrs. Dorothy Pocock, of Bradley, gave the rents of Anstell's grounds in Oare, containing about 21 acres, to be distributed by the minister, churchwardens, and overseers, and the owner of Bradley Farm, yearly, amongst the poor men and poor women of Chieveley and Oare who do not receive collection or alms; the owner of Bradley Farm to have a double vote in appointing the sum to be paid to each person. In the year 1808, the timber upon the above-mentioned grounds having attained maturity, was sold by auction for £40.

Mrs. Elizabeth Wayte gave £40 for the benefit of the poor, but £32 only having been received, the same was laid out in the purchase of 4 acres of meadow ground in Hampstead Marshall: and in 1808, the said 4 acres were sold by auction to the earl of Craven for £191.

Thomas Henshaw, esq. charged Bacon's Farm, at Shalborne, in the counties of Berks and Wilts, with two annuities of £10 and £2, the £10 to be paid in instructing ten poor boys and ten poor girls in reading and writing and the catechism of the Church of England, at the school-house at North Heath, which was erected by him and given to the parish; the £2 to be disposed of in bread, amongst the poor of Chieveley.

Mr. Richard Pocock charged his messuage, called Gregories, in this parish, now the property of Mr. Joseph Bartholomew, with the annual payment of 12*s*. to purchase 12 dozen loaves of bread, to be distributed amongst the poor of Chieveley, one dozen upon the first Sunday in every month.

Mr. Giles Lyford charged Gidley Farm in Peasemore, now the property of Mr. Joseph Wernham, with the annual payment of 40*s*. for the benefit of the poor.

Mrs. Catherine Mather gave £400, the interest to be disposed of in schooling for 12 children.

Mr. Richard Lucas gave £20, the interest to be applied in teaching 3 poor children to read.

Mr. John Houghton gave £20, Mr. Coxhead gave £10, and Mr Thomas Smith gave £6, the interest to be applied for the benefit of the poor.

By an act of parliament passed in the 54th year of the reign of George III. for enclosing lands in the tything of Courage, three several plots of ground, containing together 17A. 3R. 28P. were allotted to the lord of the manor of Courage, otherwise Prior's Court, and the vicar and churchwardens upon trust, to apply the rents in purchasing apparel, fuel, and other necessaries for the poor of that tything.

There are three hamlets in this parish which have chapels of ease, Winterbourn, Leckhampstead, and Oare. Winterbourne* lies about 3 miles south west of Chieveley. The manor of Winterbourne Maine, was so called from Maen Fitz-Richard, who died seized of it in 1261. It was afterwards successively in the Greys of Rotherfield, and the Abberburys. Sir John Philip died seized of it in the reign of Henry IV. It is now the property of W. Harbert, esq.

In the chapel are the following memorials:

On the chancel floor.

HERE LIETH THE BODY
OF JOHN POCOCK, WHO
DEPARTED THE FIRST
DAY OF OCTOBER, 1657.

North side of the chancel.

Hoc Pelubro requiescit inter Atrebatios
PHILIPPUS WESTON, Armiger,
Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ Alumnus;
Qui Christianam Integritatem
Et Constantiam
Ad mortem usq retinuit.
Ob. 9 Jun: 1729
An. Æt. 81
PHILIPPUS HENSHAW, Nepos
Grato animo
H. M. P.

* Written Burne in the Domesday Survey.

The manor and hamlet of Leckhampstead,* lies nearly 4 miles north-west of Chieveley; it was granted by Edward II. to his favorite, Piers Gaveston. In 1337, it was sold by sir Matthew Fitzherbert to sir Nicholas de la Beche, who had a confirmation from the crown in 1338; no notice of this manor has been found in records of a later date. The marquis of Downshire is the present proprietor.

At Leckhampstead Hill Green, and in the hedges by the road side in the immediate vicinity, many sarsden stones are to be seen of a very large size, all placed in rows at nearly equal distances; in one place as many as 12, one after another, in other places about 5 or 6, we cannot obtain any information how they came there, nor for what purpose they have been so regularly placed: no stone of this description is to be found in any quarry in the neighbourhood.

The only object worthy of notice in the chapel is the font, which is circular, and has a rich scroll of foliage around the top. This chapel is not used as a place of burial.

Benefactions to the Poor.

Mrs. Catherine Mather gave by will to the vicar and chapel wardens, £400 upon trust, the interest of which is to be applied for ever to provide instruction in reading and writing and to purchase books for six poor boys and six poor girls, residing in this parish.

William Saunders, gent. of the parish of Fawley, by will gave in trust, lands in Lambourn and Brightwalton, for endowing a school at Chaddleworth, where two boys of this place, chosen by the minister and chapel warden, are to be taught reading, writing, and accounts, and to be annually clothed.

The manor of Oare, which had belonged to the abbot and convent of Abingdon, was surrendered to Henry VIII. in 1547, by Edward Bashe. It was afterwards in the family of Calvert, and having undergone several intermediate alienations was purchased of the late Mr. Brummell, by the father of the present proprietor, W. Mount, esq., of Wasing.

The chapel of ease in this hamlet is one of the smallest places of public worship we have ever seen, and when filled is only

* Lecamstede in Domesday Survey.



computed to hold about 100 persons. This little hamlet, with that of Hermitage, was once a strong-hold of the followers of George Fox, who, as well as others of the most renowned of them, often held forth at a meeting house, which was situate in a wood at the top of Oare Common, between that place and Hermitage. At this lonely spot is a burial ground, and a great many quakers lie buried there; the burial ground is still kept possession of by that sect. A person residing near is allowed the pasturage to protect it from molestation. The farmers in this neighbourhood formerly were chiefly quakers, but they are now quite extinct; we have seen an antient marriage deed of a quaker, which took place at this chapel, and signed by more than 50 members of their society; by the signatures, we imagine them to have been persons of good education for that time.

The manor of Prior's Court, alias Courage,* in this parish, belongs to the dean and chapter of Westminster. Prior's Court house was held for many years under that church, by the family of Barton, and is now held under it by John Thomas Wasey, esq.

North Heath and Snelsmore are hamlets in this parish. At North Heath is a school founded in 1753, by Philip Henshaw, esq., and endowed with £10 per annum, for the education of 10 boys and 10 girls. Bradley farm in this parish, was antiently held with the manor of Langley in the adjoining parish of Hampstead Norris, by the Veres, earls of Oxford. It is now the property of Mr. Wasey, of Prior's Court house.

BOXFORD†

Is in the hundred of Faircross, and lies 4 miles from Newbury, near the road to Lambourn. The manor seems to have belonged, at a very early period, to the abbot and convent of Abingdon, as a member of Welford. It has passed through the same hands since the dissolution, and is now the property of Charles Eyre, esq.

The manor of Westbrook, a hamlet in this parish, is claimed by Mr. Eyre, as a member of Boxford, and by lord Craven as an appendage to Benham Valence. Both parties appoint gamekeepers.

* Coerige in the Domesday Survey.

† Boxore in the Domesday Survey.

Ownham and Wyfield or Wifehold are hamlets in this parish: at the former was a chapel of ease, but which has been destroyed many years.

In the parish church are the following memorials:—

North side of the chancel.

Beneath are interred
the Remains of
The Rev. JOSEPH WELLS, B.D.
32 Years Rector of this Parish
who died May 4th, 1805
Aged 75 Years.

In the same Grave
are interred the Remains of
LUCY WELLS
Relict of the Rev. JOSEPH WELLS
who died January 28th, 1807
Aged 77 Years.

H. S. E.
Jacobus Anderton
Hujus Eccles:æ nuper Rector
Orthodoxæ fidei (vel inter Rebelles)
Acerrimus Propugnator
Viduarum Maritus
Et Orphanorum Parens
Qui
Vivus Amicos habuit Homines
Moriens Conscientiam
Mortuus Deum
Obijt Maij 24°
Aᵒ { Ætat. suæ 61
{ Salut: nræ 1672.

On the chancel floor.

Heere lyeth the Bo-
die of Edward
Minester of God
in this Parish, who de-
parted this Life the
First day of August
Anno 1661



Opposite the pulpit.

Near this place lie
the bodies of
JOHN RAWLINS, Gent.
and HANNAH his Wife
with two daughters
Ann & Sarah.

He	died	Aug 1719	Aged	71
She		Jan. 1727		79
Ann		Aug. 1702		18
Sarh		Sep. 1719		24

Benefactions to the Poor.

By decree of Ecclesiastical Court the rector pays 13s. 4d. on every Easter day in the church.

Mr. Gregory Iremonger gave £27 by will.

Mrs. Wayte gave 6s. 8d. payable yearly out of 4 acres in Ray Mead, in the parish of Hamstead Marshall.

Mr. Richard Whare gave £30 by will.

Mr. Willoughby gave an annuity of 20s. payable out of his estate at Ownham, by will dated May, 1610.

John Shepherd gave £20, the interest to be paid to two poor widows, who receive no weekly collection.

The rev. John Wells is patron of the rectory, which is in the deanery of Newbury.

In Hangmanstone Lane* is the boundary stone of the parishes of Welford, Boxford, and Leckhampstead; this road is generally used by teams, &c. from Chaddleworth. In earlier times it was more used than at present, and is conjectured to have been the Roman road from Spinæ to Wanting, it being the shortest and straightest road between the two places. In the month of February, 1825, as some labourers were employed in repairing a bank in this lane, near the ruins of Poughley, they found, about 18 inches below the surface of the ground, between the middle of the road and the bank, a grey earthen vessel containing nearly 800 coins, of Constantine, Julian, Valens, Valentinian, Gratian, and others, the whole of which were in good preservation.

* The name of this lane is said to have its origin from the following tradition:—"A man having stolen a sheep, sat down to rest himself on this stone with the sheep at his back or on his shoulders, its legs being tied by a cord, but by some sudden effort to release itself, it strangled him."

About 20 years since, as some labourers were making a new road by the side of the old one, in that part called Ham Lane, they found a short sword and a dagger, much corroded; at another time was found near the same spot the brass hilt of a sword, having a figure on each side of it, with a basket of fruit or flowers on each head: in reference to these circumstances we add an extract from the Chaddleworth register:—

"Thomas Nelson, sonn of Thomas Nelson, buryed November, 1644."

To which is added in a more modern hand—

"This was that Thomas Nelson that fought two Dragoons in Hangman Stone Lane, in the time of the Civill Warr, and was never well afterwards."

WELFORD.

This parish is in the hundred of Faircross, and lies about 6 miles from Newbury, on the road to Lambourn. The manor, which formerly belonged to the abbot and convent of Abingdon, is now the property of Charles Eyre, esq. descended from John Archer esq. sometime one of the barons of the exchequer, whose son settled at Welford in consequence of his marriage with the daughter and heiress of Richard Jhones, esq. of that place. The manor of Weston was purchased of sir William Perey by John Aubrey, who conveyed it in 1364 to John de Cokking and his heirs; this manor in queen Elizabeth's time was in the family of Hungerford, afterwards successively in the families of Moore of Fawley, and Jones of Ramsbury. It is now by inheritance from the latter, the property of sir F. Burdett, bart.

Easton, another hamlet in this parish, lies on the road to Newbury. The hamlet of Benham Hoe is also in this parish. The manor of Benham Hoe cum Benham Lovell is the property of Charles Eyre, esq. having of late years passed with the manor of Welford. Westbrook, in the parish of Boxford, is also an appurtenant to this manor. Benham Lovell, formerly a separate manor, took its name from the antient family of Lovell; it was held by the service of keeping a pack of dogs, at the king's expense, for the royal use.

The church has a circular tower at the west end, with small round-headed windows, the style of building in the Saxon era;



the spire, which is very elegant, is of a more recent erection. The font has circular interlaced arches resting on pillars, in the early Gothic style. The stone stalls in the chancel are considered amongst the most remarkable in the county.

The following memorials are in this church:—

Against the north wall, opposite the stalls, is a handsome monument, with a sculptured woman in the dress of her time, kneeling at a desk, and under her the following inscription:—

ANNA GVLIELMI REDE MILITIS FILIA ADRIANI FORTESCVE ET POSTEA THOMÆ PARRY MILITVM VXOR HIC SITA EST RELIQVIT EX NVMEROSA PROLE SVPERSTITES EX FORTESCVO FILIOS TRES FILIAS DVAS EX PARRIO DVOS FILIOS, ET FILIAM VNAM, CETERIS IMMATVRE DECEDENTIBVS, IPSA VERO CVM VTRIVSQVE FAMILIÆ FVNDAMENTA RESTAVRASSET ÆTATIS SVÆ ANNO LXXV HVMANITATEM REXIT QVINTO JANVARII ANNO DNI MDLXXXV.
R ELIZABETHÆ REGNANTE

Under the former is this inscription:—

THOMAS FORTESCVE F. MATRI OPTIMÆ POSVIT.

And the portraitures of 7 sons and 12 daughters.

On the chancel floor.

Ricardus Ihones vere Armiger
unius uxoris Maritus
et unicæ filiæ superstitis pater
Morbi malignitate nullis medicis superanda
cum luctu omnium et desiderio
fato concessit
mensis Februarii die quinto
Anno Dni millesimo sexcentesimo sexagesimo
Quarto et Ætatis Suæ trigesimo sexto

Quod mortale fuit hic depositum
sub indubitata immortalitatis beatæ Spe
Spiritus vero (exuto corpore) ad patrem Spirituum
remeavit.

On brass plates fixed to a gravestone is the figure of a priest in his vestments, having a shorn crown, and the following lines, (partly destroyed):—

Quisquis eris, qui transieris, sta, perlege, plora.
Cum quod eris, fueramque quod es, pro me precor ora.
Rex Christe Westlake animæ miserere Johannis.

On the chancel floor.

Close to this Stone
In the Grave of her Father
Lieth the Body of Madam MARY ARCHER
Wife of JOHN ARCHER, Esq.
The only surviving Child of RICHARD IHONES, Esq.
Sole Heiress of his many and great Estates
And truly worthy of them
For she had the Heart to do Good all her Time.
With such a *Sacrifice*
GOD is well pleased.
She died the 9th of September
Anno { Dni 1792
Ætat. suæ 42

On the south side of the chancel.

Beneath are deposited the Remains
of JOHN ARCHER, Esq.
late of this Place & of *Cooperesale*, in the County of *Essex*
He was the Son of WILLIAM EYRE, Esq.
of *Home* and *Hylow*, in the County of *Derby*
(by SUSANNA, Daughter of Sir JOHN NEWTON, Bart.
of *Barr's Court*, in the County of *Gloucester*, & of *Thorpe*
in the County of *Lincoln*
who took the name of *Archer*, and the Estates of *Welford* & *Cooperesale*
by the bequest of JOHN ARCHER, Esq. formerly of this Place
He married the Lady MARY, Daughter of JOHN, Earl FITZWILLIAM
by whom he left Issue two Daughters.
He died 8th of October, 1800; aged 71.

JOHN ARCHER HOUBLON, Esq. of *Hallingbury-Place*
in the County of *Essex*
Grandson of the said JOHN & LADY MARY ARCHER
and only Son of the late JACOB HOUBLON, Esq.
and of SUSANNA their eldest Daughter
hath erected this Monument
in Compliance with the Will, and in Gratitude to the Memory
of his Grandfather & Benefactor.

Beside the foregoing.

Sacred to the memory of
CHARLOTTE
relict of Gillery Pigott, Esq.
and the younger daughter of John Archer, Esq.
who departed this life on the first of March, MDCCCXIX,
in the sixty-fifth year of her age,
at Maidenhead in this County,
Where her charities will be long remembered and were truly coextensive
With the ample fortune which descended to her from her ancestors.
This tablet is erected in token of affection
By her surviving sister Susanna Houblon Newton.

On the south side of the chancel.

Juxta

Rdi. Johannis, Francisci, Thomæ, Gulielmus — qui obiit — *June 6, 1709; Mar. 6, 1687; 1691; 16* — *Francisci patris successoris; Celibis; Col. Nov. Oxon Socij MB.; Juris Consultus* — *Fratrum*

MUNDY;

nec non

Elizabethæ, Franciscæ, Mariæ — qui obiit — *Nov. 1717* — *Iohannis Viduæ; Virginis; Duxbury* — *Sororum*

HAYNE

Jacent Exuviæ

Nec Pater, aut Patruus, nec Avus, nec Ava, almave Mater
Neve Prior Natu, Posteriorve potest
Pauper, nec Dives (non totus denig. MUNDUS)
Anfugere Amplexus, heu Libitina, tuos
Hoc Marmor Rdus. JOHANNES MUNDY filius natu maximus
mœrens posuit
Nov. 1, *A. Di.* 1718.

TO THE MEMORY OF
THE REVD THOMAS SHIRLEY, WHO
SUCCEEDED HIS FATHER RALPH SHIRLEY
AS RECTOR OF THIS PARISH
HE DIED XIVTH FEBY MDCCLXXX
IN THE LXXIST YEAR OF HIS AGE
ALSO
OF DOROTHY, HIS WIFE, DAUGHTER OF
JOHN ROLFE, ESQ. MANY YEARS
A CLERK IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS
SHE DIED XXVIIITH NOV. MDCCLXXXV
AGED LXXVIII YEARS
AND ALSO OF THEIR THREE DAUGHTERS
SUSANNA, WHO DIED JULY MDCCLXI
AGED XVIII
DOROTHY, WHO DIED NOVR MDCCLVIII
AGED XIV.
SOPHIA, WHO DIED AN INFANT.

On the north side of the chancel.

M. S.
ELIZABETHÆ Uxoris
Francisci Mundy, S. T. P. et hujus
Ecclesiæ nuper Rectoris, quæ post bene peracta
piæ matris et conjugis officia, iis insuper, quibus
Viduas potuit, Virtutibus inclaruit. Utramq. Fortunam
novit illa et feliciter sustinuit, omnis benefaciendi
Generis Tota satagens. Tali animo imbuta Vitam egit
tandemq. cum eadem Animi lenitate, quâ semper
Vixerat insignis, mortem Decubuit.

Ann { Dni } 1689
{ Ætat } 76

On the north side of the chancel.

H. S. E.
Fran. Mundy, S. T. P.
Hujus Ecclesiæ Rector
Wellensis Subdecanus
Laudavensis Thesaurarius
Qui cum
Multos liberos provide alendo
Gregem orthodoxu fideliter pascendo
lites parochiales amice componendo
et projectas aliorū fortunas erigendo
Diu & feliciter vixisset
Febre tandem correptus
et benefaciendo alijs exhaustus
a pauperibus, orphanis, & vicinis
Desideratus animam exhalavit
Nov. 22, Anno { Dni. 1678 / Ætat. 65

Sacred to the Memory of the
Rev. JOHN SIKES SAWBRIDGE,
Rector of this Parish during Six Years.
He was Third Son of HENRY SAWBRIDGE, Esq.
of East Haddon in the County of Northampton,
was born March 18th, 1765, and died January 15th, 1836.
Also of FRANCES JANE, Relict of the above,
Daughter of Framingham Thruston, Esq.
Of Market Weston Hall, in the County of Suffolk,
was born October 7th, 1765, and died March 14th, 1837.
This Monument to the Memory of beloved Parents
is erected by their affectionate Children.

At the foot of this Tablet are deposited the Remains of the
Rev. HENRY SAWBRIDGE,
during 48 Years Rector of this Parish.
He was the second son of Henry Sawbridge, Esq. of East Haddon,
in the County of Northampton, was born 1st of July, 1758,
and died the 2nd of January, 1839.

The stone cross in the churchyard is the most perfect of any in the neighbourhood.

Thomas Sheafe, rector of this parish, who died in 1639, at the age of fourscore, published a short time before his death, a work, entitled "A Plea for Old Age."

The parsonage house is at Wickham, a hamlet of this parish, where is a chapel of ease.

The rev. W. Nicholson is patron of the rectory, which is in the deanery of Newbury.

The survey of Domesday describes two churches at Welford, and one at Weston.

LITTLE, OR EAST SHEFFORD

Is in the hundred of Kintbury Eagle, and lies on the road from Newbury to Lambourn; it is 8 miles from Newbury. The manor was at an early period in the family of Fettiplace. Thomas Fettiplace, of East Shefford, married Beatrice, an illegitimate daughter of John, king of Portugal, who had been successively the widow of Thomas, earl of Arundell; Gilbert, lord Talbot; and John, earl of Huntingdon. The grandson of this Thomas Fettiplace married the heiress of Besils, and rebuilt the manor house at East Shefford. A small part of this antient manor house, near the church, is now used as a barn; the remaining ruins shew it to have been originally an extensive building, it had a garden attached, (now a small meadow) which, with the house, was, it is said, entirely surrounded by a moat, and approached over a draw-bridge.

Sir Richard Elyot, one of the Justices of the King's Bench, in 1515, had a temporary interest in this manor, by marrying the relict of one of the Fettiplaces. Edmund Fettiplace, grandson of Thomas, above-mentioned, quitted Shefford for Besils Legh.* The manor of Shefford having been afterwards purchased by the Winchcombes, descended with their other estates to Winchcombe Henry Howard Hartley, esq.; it is now the property of Mr. Froome.

In the parish church is a handsome alabaster monument, with figures of a man in armour and a lady, without any inscription or arms.

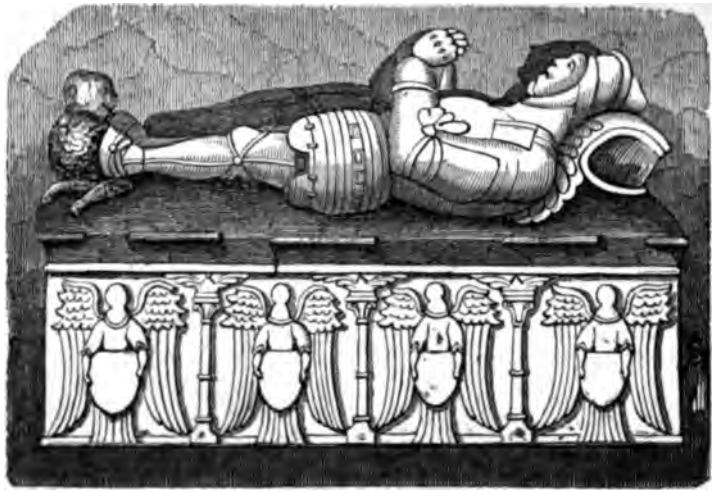
* "John Fettiplace, esq., sat in the long parliament for Berkshire, but disliking the violent proceedings of the parliamentarians, left London in 1643, and joined the royal camp and became an adherent of the king; the house of commons consequently expelled him as a malignant, and issued a new writ for the county in 1648. This gentleman subscribed the solemn league and covenant in 1643, and his name appears in the list of noblemen and gentlemen, who disgusted at the violence with which the prosecution of the earl of Strafford was carried on, opposed the passing of the bill of attainder, and were by the ruling party pelted up in the Old Palace Yard, Westminster as Straffordians and enemies to justice."

REMAINS OF THE MANSION HOUSE, LITTLE SHEFFORD.









ALABASTER MONUMENT IN LITTLE SHEFFORD CHURCH.



On the north side of the chancel is an elegant grey marble tomb, upon which are the effigies of John Fettiplace, esq. his wife, and children.

The following inscription issues from his mouth:—

Deus misereatur nostri & benedicat nobis.

From the mouth of the woman:—

Illuminet vultum suum super nos.

Under the figures, this epitaph:—

Here under this tombe lithe buryed John Fetyplace, Esquyer & Dorathye his wife which John deceasde the XIth day of October An° dm. M°V°XXIIIJ° for whos. soule of yor. charite sey a pr. nr. & an Ave.

In the windows are the arms of Fettiplace, and some mutilated figures of saints.

Benefactions to the Poor.

Lady Church gave £10, the interest to be distributed by the churchwardens on St. Thomas's day.

Elizabeth Froome gave £20, the interest to be distributed on St. Thomas's day.

R. Harbert, esq. and W. Harbert, esq. are patrons of the rectory, which is in the deanery of Newbury.

GREAT, OR WEST SHEFFORD*

Is in the hundred of Kintbury Eagle, and lies on the road from Newbury to Lambourn; 9 miles from Newbury and 4 from Lambourn. One of the Sheffords, but it is uncertain which, was in the Dover family in the reign of Henry II., was granted by Henry III. to Payne Paverell, and was afterwards in the family of Bokesworth; the other was in the family of De Riparies or Rivers. At a later period the manor of Great Shefford belonged for a considerable time to a branch of the Brydges family. Eleanor, daughter of Anthony Bridges, esq. the last male heir of this family, who died in 1613, brought it in marriage to George Browne, esq. whose grandson, sir George Browne, sold it to sir William Turnbull in 1710; it is now the property of the marquis of Downshire.

* Siford in the Domesday Survey.



In the road to Hungerford, upon the bounds between this parish and that of Hungerford, grew an old pollard ash, under which the Hundred Court used to be held, but it is now transferred to a neighbouring house. It is called *Hug Ditch Court*, from one Hugo, king of the Mercians, who made a dyke hereabouts, for the security of his frontiers.

The manor, or manor farm of Whatcomb, in this parish, now the property of Mrs. Wroughton, of Ibstone House, Stoken-church, Oxfordshire, was antiently in the family of Cobshill, and afterwards in that of Haute.

The parish church having a circular tower at the west end, with small round-headed windows, may be classed with the Saxon buildings, the octangular story evidently having been added to the original structure.

There is the remains of a stone cross in the churchyard.

The antient font in this church has rich scrolls of foliage, in the style of the enriched Saxon architecture. This font has recently been placed in the chancel for its better preservation.

Opposite the south entrance is a richly ornamented niche, and on the east side of the pulpit a plain one.

The following memorials are in the church:—

On a marble monument, south side of the chancel.

Sacred to the Memory of
WILLIAM WILSON,
eldest son of the Rev. *WILLIAM WILSON*,
Rector of this Parish,
who departed this life April 22, 1803,
Aged fifteen Years.

Although in torpid sleep thy Limbs are laid,
Though death thus cuts thee off in earliest prime,
Yet in our hearts thy image ne'er shall fade,
But there deride the wasting hand of time.

On the chancel floor.

Here
Lyeth the
Body of Henry
Browne, who
departed this
Life the 19th of
March,
Anno Dom.
1608.

On the chancel floor.

HERE
LYETH THE
BODY OF ELINER
BROWNE, WHO
DEPARTED THIS
LIFE NOVEMBER
THE 27TH
ANNO DOM.
1002.

In
Memory of the Rev.
RICHARD FORSTER,
late Rector of this Parish
who departed this Life
November 3d, 1760,
In the 63d year of his Age.

On the floor, without the chancel rails.

Here lyeth the body of
Sir George Browne,* Knight
of the honourable order of
the Bath, eldest Sonn of
George Browne, Esquire
Who dyed the 5th of December
Anno Dom.
1678.

On a marble monument on the east wall of the chancel.

M. S.
GULIELMI WILSON, A. M.
Joannis Wilson, Arm: de Sandbach in Com. Cestriæ
filii natu tertii
et hujusce Ecclesiæ
per unum et quadraginta annos Rectoris;
Qui natus Martii XX, MDCCXXXVIII,
pene octogenarius morbo extinctus est
Feb. VII, MDCCCXVIII.

Servet etiam hoc marmor nomen et memoriam
ROBERTI WILSON, M.D.
fratris ejusdem natu minoris
qui prædio suo rustico
apud Ghyretty in provincia Bengalensi
cum plus XLI annis patriæ carnisset
diem supremum obiit
Junii IX, MDCCCXIII, anno ætat LXXIII,
et ibidem sepultus est.

* Pope has celebrated this person in his "Windsor Forest."



Upon a marble monument, south side of the church.

IN THE VAULT BENEATH ARE INTERRED
IN THE PIOUS HOPE OF A JOYFUL RESURRECTION
THE REMAINS OF
MARY
RELICT OF THE LATE REV. WILLIAM WILSON
RECTOR OF THIS PARISH
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
DECEMBER XXVII, MDCCCXXII,
IN THE SIXTY-FOURTH YEAR OF HER AGE.

Opposite the pulpit.

Mrs. MARY FORSTER,
Relict of the above
Rev. Mr. FORSTER,
departed this Life
the 9th of May, 1788,
Aged 70 Years.

IN MEMORY OF
THOMAS FULBROOK,
Yeoman, of Shefford Woodlands,
who died the 15th of March, 1812, Aged 75 Years
Also of WILLIAM FULBROOK,
who died Sept. 11th, 1831, Aged 64 Years,
Sincerely Regretted and Lamented
by his Wife and Family.

Near this place
are deposited
the Remains of
MARY FULBROOK,
Widow of the late
THOMAS FULBROOK,
who departed this life April 11th, 1812,
Aged 71 Years.
This Monument was erected
to her Memory by
her 3 Daughters.

Benefactions to the Poor.

Mrs. Mary Linton gave £20, the interest thereof to be given to the poor at Easter.

Mr. Gabriel Fulbrook and Mr. John Fulbrook gave £5 each, the interest to be given to the poor at Easter.

Mrs. Forster, widow of the late rev. Mr. Forster, gave £20, the interest to be distributed to the poor at Christmas.

Mr. Thomas Fulbrook left by will £100, the interest to be distributed amongst the poor annually.

Mr. Anthony Barrett bequeathed £100, the interest to be annually distributed to the poor.

The marquis of Downshire has erected and endowed a school for the education of the poor of this parish.

The parish register begins in 1570, but is not regularly carried on till 1612. The only remarkable things in it, are that the font was removed out of the church and the clergyman dispossessed of his living during the great rebellion.* It has been stated by an old man, who when a boy was servant to the rev. Mr. Dixon, then rector, that during the usurpation he was driven to great straits; his wife urging him one day when at dinner to eat more, he replied that "if he filled his belly, the children must be starved." The value of the living at this time was £300 per annum.

The principal and scholars of Brasen Nose College, Oxford, are patrons of the rectory, which is in the deanery of Newbury.

AVINGTON

In the hundred of Faircross and deanery of Newbury, lies 6¼ miles south-west of Newbury. The manor belonged to the Longespees, earls of Salisbury, from whom it passed successively by female heirs to the Lacys, earls of Lincoln, and the lords Strange, of Knockin. It is probable that at a later period it was in the families of Coventry and Choke. Richard Choke married the heiress of the Coventrys, of Avington; his grandson Francis was knighted in 1643. Some years ago, the manor of Avington was in the family of Jones, of Ramsbury, in Wilts. William Langham, esq. younger brother of the late sir James Langham, bart. having married the heiress of that family, took the name of Jones, and was created a baronet. Dying without issue, Avington, with several other manors, devolved, upon the death of his widow, to sir Francis Burdett, bart. who is the present proprietor.

* Sir Edward Walker in his "Historical Discourses," informs us that king Charles was quartered at Shelford, on the 19th of November, 1644.

The interior of the parish church exhibits a very curious specimen of Saxon architecture. The nave is separated from the chancel by an arch richly ornamented with zig-zag moulding, and a great variety of grotesque heads, springing from two enriched piers, which lean outwards; this arch is remarkable, being formed of the segments of two circles having different centres. The chancel appears to have had originally a groined roof, the lower part of some of the groins remain, which are enriched with roses. The building is small and quite plain on the outside.

The rude workmanship around the font is particularly deserving of notice.

The following memorials are in the chancel:—

WILLIAM JAMES,* Esq.
Deceased June 24, 1666,
Aged 47.

Enter, dear Soul, into thy Master's Joyes,
Body rest there, till summoned by His Voice.

Here lieth the body of
SARAH IAMES, Widow and Relict of
William Iames, late of Denford, Esq. dec[t]
Obijt 21[o] Dec, Anno { Dom. 1620 / Ætat. 75

BOULTON JAMES Armiger ætatis
XXXVIII anno y. obijt IIII[o] die
Decembris Anno Dñi
MDCLXXXXIII[o]

Here lies the Body of
FRANCES JAMES
Relict of Bolton James, of Denford, Esq.
only Child & Heiress of
Mr. Adam Head of Peasemore.
She was the best of Wives
& the best of Mothers & the best of Widows.
She died August the 25th, 1720,
Aged 55 Years.

Sir Francis Burdett, bart. is patron of the rectory.

* One of the [illegible] was remarkable for his steady adherence to the Protestant Religion [illegible]

KINTBURY

Antiently Cheneteberie and Kennetbury, about 6 miles south-west of Newbury, derives its name from the river Kennet, on the banks of which it is situated. This village gives name to the hundred* in which it is situated. It was antiently a market town.

The manor of Kintbury Ambresbury belonged to the nuns of Ambresbury, having been given to them at the first foundation of their monastery by Queen Elfrida. In 1542 it was granted to John Cheyne: not long afterwards it came to the Darrells, from whom it passed in marriage, about the year 1670, with the daughter and heiress of sir John Darrell, to sir John Elwes, who sold it to Philip Jemmet, esq. alderman of London. Alderman Jemmet's daughter brought it in marriage to sir Jonathan Raymond. It afterwards became, in right of his wife, the property of Charles Dundas, esq. one of the knights of the shire, who resided on this estate, at his seat, Barton Court. Mrs. Dundas's grandfather, Thomas Whitley, esq. of Aston Hall, in Flintshire, married Anne, daughter of Thomas Loder, esq. of Balsdon park, in this parish, by his wife Elizabeth, eldest daughter of sir Jonathan Raymond, above-mentioned. Mr. Dundas was created, May 10th, 1832, baron Amesbury, of Kintbury Amesbury and Barton Court, in Berkshire, and of Aston Hall, county of Flint; his lordship died June 30th, 1832, aged 80.

Lord Amesbury was first cousin to lord Dundas, and to the earl of Lauderdale; he was the youngest son of Thomas Dundas, of Fingask, esq. by his second wife, lady Janet Maitland, third and youngest daughter of Charles, earl of Lauderdale. His lordship first married Anne, daughter and heiress of Ralph Whitley, esq. by whom he had an only daughter, Janet, married to her first cousin capt. James Whitley Deans Dundas, R.N. by whom she has issue. His lordship married, secondly, January 25th, 1822, his first cousin Margaret, daughter of the hon. Charles Maitland Barclay, (second son of Charles, sixth earl of Lauderdale,) who survives him.

* Kintbury Eagle, antiently Cheneteberie Eglei.

The manor of Kintbury Holt was given to the nuns of Eaton, in Warwickshire, by their founder, Robert Bossu, earl of Leicester. It is now the property of lord Craven.

The manor of Balsdon, or Balston, in this parish, was antiently in the family of Polhampton; at a later period in the Darrells. It is now the property of Cuthbert Johnson, esq.

The manor of Tidcomb had in antient times been successively in the families of Hertrugge, Burton, Romaine, and Long. It is now the property of capt. Mackinnon.

The capital mansion on this estate, called Wallingtons, is in the occupation of Mr. Cuthbert Johnson. The manor of Anville is the property of sir F. Burdett, who inherits it from the family of Jones, of Ramsbury.

The manors of High and Low Denford, were formerly the the property of the Longespees, earls of Salisbury, and afterwards of lords Lovell and Holland. They came to the crown by the attainder of Francis, lord Lovell, in 1487, and were granted by king Henry VIII. to the ancestors of the late John James, esq. They are now the property of G. H. Cherry, esq.

A very beautiful lancet Gothic chapel has lately been erected and endowed by G. H. Cherry, esq. of Denford House, it is built of the Bath stone, and is contiguous to Mr. Cherry's residence.

In the parish church are the following memorials:—

In the middle aisle, near the chancel, is the following on copper, with their effigies and arms also on copper.

> Mr. Iohn Gynter & Alice his Wife being full as of Yeares so of Bounty & Charity, are gathered to their Fathers in Place, Hee was here buryed 2^do Ianuarii, A° Dni 1621, Aged 89 Yeares, Shee was Buryed at Cicyter in the County of Glouc^r with the like Monument 18^o Martii, A° Dni 1626, Aged 86 Yeares.
>
> Io^s Platt ar eorvnd Gener et—Exec^s hoc posvit.

This family settled at Kintbury about the year 1407, and continued till 1695, it then became extinct.

On the left side of the arch near the chancel.

HERE
LIETH INTERRED THE BODY
OF PHILIP JEMMETT, ESQ.
SOMETIME ALDERMAN OF
THE CITY OF LONDON, WHO
DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE 17TH OF
IUNE, IN THE YEARE OF OUR L^D 1678,
AGED 63.

Near the above, on a large and handsome marble monument, with beautifully executed busts, in white marble, of sir Jonathan Raymond, and his lady.

To the Memory of
S^r JONATHAN RAYMOND, K^t
and Dame Anne his Wife,
only Daughter & Heiress of
PHILIP JEMMET, Esq^r
They were married June XI, MDCLXI,
and having had six sons and five Daughters
departed this life,
S^r JONATHAN RAYMOND, March XI,
MDCCX, in the LXXXI year of his age.
the Lady RAYMOND, June XVII, MDCCIX,
in the LXIV year of her age.
This Monument was erected by his only Surviving Son,
S^r JEMMET RAYMOND, K^t

On a beautiful pedestal monument, with marble busts of sir Jemmet Raymond and his two ladies, in the chancel.

IN MEMORY
of Sir Jemmett Raymond, of Barton, Knt. son of Sir Jonathan Raymond,
Born in the year of our Lord 1662, and of his two Ladies.

Sir Jemmet in the year 1687 Married Elizabeth, sole Daughter and Heiress of S^r George Brown, of Woolverton, in the County of Hants, Knt. by whom he only had one Son, Jemmet Raymond, Esq. She died on the 19th day of July, 1688. And in the year 1704, Sir Jemmett Married Elizabeth, Daughter of Henry Skylling of Draycot, in the County of Wilts, Esq. By her He had Several Sons and Daughters, who all dyed before him, Except his Daughter Elizabeth, Married to the Rev. Mr. John Craven, only Son of Governour Craven, By Elizabeth, Daughter of Coll: John Staples. Sir Jemmett lived in great Hospitality and Esteem to the Ninety third year of his Age, And Surviving his Second Lady who died on the 4th day of June, 1754, only a few Months, He departed this Life on the 20th day of December, in the same year.

This Monument was Erected according to the Order of his Son, Jemmett Raymond, Esq. by his Widow Elizabeth Raymond.

On a pedestal monument in the chancel, to match the foregoing, with marble busts of Jemmet Raymond, esq. and his lady.

Sacred to the Memory
of
JEMMETT RAYMOND, Esq^re & ELIZABETH, his Wife:
He was the son
of
S^r JEMMETT RAYMOND, Kn^t
by
ELIZABETH, Daughter of Sir George Brown,
She was the Daughter
of
The Hon^ble Col^l John Staples,
And the Widow of the Hon^ble Charles Craven, Esq^re
Governor of SOUTH CAROLINA,
In the Reign of QUEEN ANN.
He died August 9th { 1767 } At the Age of { 79
She died April 27th { 1771 } { 71

On a beautiful marble monument, over the family seat.

SACRED
To the Memory of
THE RIGHT HON^BLE CHARLES DUNDAS,
BARON AMESBURY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM
OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND,
WHO WAS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
FOR MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY,
AND REPRESENTED THE COUNTY OF BERKS
DURING TEN SUCCESSIVE PARLIAMENTS.
IN FULL POSSESSION OF EVERY FACULTY,
HE WAS SEIZED WITH CHOLERA, AND DIED ON
THE 30TH JUNE, 1832, IN THE 81ST YEAR OF HIS AGE
ALSO IN MEMORY OF
ANN,
HIS WIFE, DAUGHTER AND SOLE HEIRESS
OF RALPH AND MARGARET WHITLEY,
OF ASTON HALL, IN THE COUNTY OF FLINT,
AND THE LINEAL DESCENDANT
OF SIR JONATHAN RAYMOND
OF BARTON COURT, IN THIS COUNTY,
SHE DIED NOVEMBER THE 20TH, 1812, AGED 59 YEARS.
THEY LEFT ISSUE ONE CHILD, JANET.

In the north aisle.

In Memory of
S^r W^m DARRELL, of Littlecote, Wilts, K^t who died without
Issue, 1^st Oct^r 1558.
He was uncle to Sir JOHN DARRELL,
of West Woodhay and Balsdon, B^t
and high Sheriff for the County
of Berks, 1562,
And was buried in this place

On the south side of the church.

TO THE MEMORY OF
CHRISTOPHER DEXTER,
OF THE COUNTY TIPPERARY, IRELAND,
LIEUTENANT IN HIS MAJESTY'S 63RD REGIMENT
WHO DIED IN FORT ST. GEORGE, MADRAS,
ON THE 19TH MAY, 1834,
AGED 30 YEARS.

THIS MONUMENT IS ERECTED
BY HIS WIDOW
THE ELDEST DAUGHTER OF THE
REV. FULWAR CRAVEN FOWLE,
VICAR OF THIS PARISH.

Sacred to the Memory of
The Revd RICHARD GARRARD,
Who died the 20th, Novr 1786,
This stone is erected by
WILLIAM, LORD CRAVEN,
CHARLES DUNDAS,
and
HENRY SAWBRIDGE,
as a testimony of his Worth
and their Esteem.

In digging at Kintbury in 1762, a large quantity of Saxon coins were found of Edred, Edwy, and Edmund.*

The great tithes of this parish, which were appropriated to the monastery of Ambresbury, are now the property of capt. J. W. D. Dundas, who is patron of the vicarage, which is in the deanery of Newbury.

The tithing of Elcot was inclosed in 1779; the lands were not exonerated from tithes. Besides the above-mentioned hamlets to which manors are annexed, Clapton, Englewood, and Wormstall are in this parish.

INKPEN†

Is in the hundred of Kintbury Eagle, and lies about 7 miles south-west of Newbury. The manor was held, at an early period, under the baronial family of Somery, by the Inkpens, who took their name from the village. It was afterwards in the families of Fitchet and Keryell, and is now the property of the earl of Craven.

* Gough's Camden, vol. i. p. 159.

† Hingepenne in the Domesday Survey.

The manor of West Cote, or West Court, in this parish, was formerly in the family of Hill. For many years it was held jointly by the noble families of Spencer and Craven. Lord Spencer's moiety was sold to Mr. Durnford, of Inkpen, who has since disposed of most of the lands which were included in his purchase.

The abbot and convent of Titchfield had a considerable estate in this parish, given them by Geffry le Mansell and Peter Suckemond.

Prosperous Farm, in this parish, was in the occupation of Mr. Jethro Tull, the well known author of the "Horse-hoeing Husbandry."*

In the parish church was a monument of a Crusader; the figure,† now much mutilated, was many years since, very injudiciously removed from the chancel, and placed upright, without its legs, at the west end of the church. The following is Ashmole's description of it:—

"On the north side of the chancel lyes the statue of a knight cross-legged, armed in mail, and a short coat over it; he holds a deep shield on his left arm, and his right seems drawing a sword.

The following memorials are in the church:—

On the east wall of the chancel.

Here lie the Remains
Of Mrs. *AUDRY BRICKENDEN*,
Daughter of *COLWELL BRICKENDEN*,
Doctor of Divinity,
Master of Pembroke College, in Oxford,
And Rector of this Parish.

Here also lies Interr'd
The Body of Mrs. *CATHERINE FISHER*,
Daughter of *WILLIAM FISHER*, Esquire,
Of Chawton, in the County of Southton,
Who by her last Will order'd
This Monument and Inscription
To Preserve the Memory
Of their Mutual Regard and Affection.

Mrs. *AUDRY BRICKENDEN*, } Died 1737
Mrs. *CATHERINE FISHER*, } 1738

* "From this famous book I learned all my principles relating to farming, gardening, and planting. It really, without a pun, *goes to the root* of the subject. Before I had read this book I had seen enough of *effects*, but really knew nothing about *the causes*. It contains the foundation of all knowledge in the cultivation of the earth."—COBBETT.

† It is called by the inhabitants "Old Inkpen."

In the middle aisle.

To the Memory
of
Mrs. *MARY POTTINGER*,
late of COMPTON, in this COUNTY,
Who Died 25 April, 1752,
Aged 72.

Also of
Mrs. MARY TWITCHEN,
Her MOTHER, who died
18 Jan. 1733, Aged 90.

Beside the above.

In Memory of
RICHARD TWITCHEN, GENT.
Who dy'd Novr the 16th, A.D. 1717,
Aged 80 years.

On the north side of the chancel.

To the Honoured Memory of his Dear Parents,
Whose Bodies lie Interr'd in this Chancel,
JOHN FISHER, of the *City of Bristol*, Esq.
Who died April the 11th, 1742, Aged 56 Years.
Also ELIZABETH, his Wife. (Second Daughter
of the *Reverend Colwell Brickenden*, D.D.
sometime Rector of This Parish
Who ended a pious Life by a peaceful Death,
Regretted by those most, who knew her best,
Aug. the 26th, 1765, Aged 67 Years.
EDW. FISHER, their Eldest Son, hath caused
this Monument to be erected.

Opposite the pulpit.

P. M. P.
In Memory of THOMAS BUTLER, Esq.
Captain of his Majesty's Navy,
Who was lost with the Scarborough
Man of War and all the Crew,
In that dreadful Hurricane
Which happened at Jamaica,
In Oct. 1780, in the 26th year of his Age,
As he was going Passenger in the above Ship,
To St. Juan's, to take the Command of
The Diamond Frigate, of which he was
Appointed Captain by his worthy Friend
Vice Admiral Sr PETER PARKER, Knt.

On the south side of the chancel.

Sacred to the Memory of
JOSEPH BUTLER, Esq. of Kirby House,
in this Parish, who died January 8th, 1823,
Aged 73 Years.
And of CATHERINE, his Wife, who died
October 4th, 1819, Aged 62 Years.
Likewise to their Daughter ANNE,
who died October 26th, 1800, Aged 10 Years.
Sacred also to the Memory of
the Rev. JOSEPH BUTLER, their Son,
some years Curate of this Parish,
who died at Kensington,
August 11th, 1821, Aged 33 Years.

Benefaction to the Poor.

Mr. John Baster, late of this parish, left by will £200, (the the sum produced by the sale of his portion of the Inkpen common enclosure,) the interest to be annually divided amongst the aged poor, and most industrious inhabitants of Inkpen, at Christmas.

The patronage of the rectory, which is in the deanery of Newbury, has been many years in the family of the present incumbent, the rev. Mr. Butler. An annual payment was settled on the rector in lieu of tithes, by an act of parliament in 1747.

In this parish rises the river Auborn, which running in an eastwardly direction till it reaches Hide End, in the parish of Brimpton, then bending northward, runs in an oblique direction between Brimpton and Wasing, and falls into the Kennet a little below the last-mentioned village. Its course, from the farthest spring on Inkpen common to its junction with the Kennet, is about 17 miles. It forms the boundary between this county and Hampshire.

WEST WOODHAY

Is in the hundred of Kintbury Eagle, and lies on the borders of Hampshire, about 7 miles south-west of Newbury. It had antiently a market on Tuesdays, granted in 1318, to one of the barons of St. Amand.* From the St. Amands, West Woodhay passed by marriage to sir Gerard Braybrooke, one of whose coheiresses married sir William Beauchamp, afterwards lord St.

* Henry St. Amand, created lord St. Amand of Woodhay, 1299.

Amand. John de la Pole, earl of Lincoln, had a grant of this manor in 1484. Sir Francis Cheyne died seised of it in 1512: it continued for some time in his collateral descendants, and afterwards became the property of the Darrells. John Darrell, esq. of West Woodhay, was created a baronet in 1622. Not long afterwards this estate passed to the family of Rudyerd, of whom it was purchased by the grandfather of the late general sir Robert Sloper, K.B. It is now the property of the rev. John Sloper, who is likewise patron of the rectory, which is in the deanery of Newbury.

The church, although small, is a very superior building, from the design of Inigo Jones. It is justly considered the finest specimen of brick building in this part of the county. West Woodhay house, the residence of Mr. Sloper, was also erected by the same celebrated architect.

On the north side of the chancel is the following memorial:—

TO THE MEMORY OF
LIEUTENANT GENERAL JAMES BUTLER,
OF THE ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY
AND LATE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
OF THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE
AT SANDHURST,
WHO DIED ON THE 18TH OF AUGUST,
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1836,
AGED 74 YEARS.

THIS TABLET WAS ERECTED AS A TESTIMONY OF REGARD
BY HIS WIDOW.

In the old church, in memory of sir Benjamin Rudyerd, lord of the manor, a poet, and noted parliamentary speaker in the time of the commonwealth, was the following epitaph:—

John Graunt, in memory of his deare and honoured Master Sir Benjamin Rudyerd, knight, hath affixed this Stone over his Grave, with this Epitaph made by Sir Benjamin in his younger years.

" Fond World, leave off this foolish Trick
Of making Epitaphs upon the Dead;
Rather go write them on the Quick,
Whose soules in earthly Flesh lye buried;
For in this Grave lyes nought of me,
But my soules Grave, two Graves well turned to one.
Thus doe I live, from Death made free;
Trust me good Friend, I am not dead, but gone
To God and Christ my Saviour alone."

He was born on St. Steven's Day, 1572, and dyed the last of May, Ao Domini 1658, leaving William Rudyerd, Esq. his only Son and Heire.

Sir Benjamin Rudyerd was born at East Woodhay, in the year 1572, and educated at Winchester School and St. John's College, Oxford. It does not, however, appear that he took the usual university degrees, although "by the polite learning he attained to there, and by his conversation with learned men in the great city, he became" (says Anthony A Wood) "an accomplished gentleman and an excellent poet. His youthful years were adorned with all polite learning, his middle years with matters of judgment, and his latter with state affairs and politics."*

From the same authority we learn that "he was held in high value by the great men of the age for his ingenuity, especially John Hoskyns, sen. Richard Martin, John Owen the epigrammatist, and Ben Jonson; the former of these he wounded in an unlucky duel, but a reconciliation was soon afterwards effected between the combatants. With the earl of Pembroke,† Rudyerd lived on terms of intimacy, and he at the same time enjoyed the acquaintance of the best wits and ablest writers of his day, while his learning, probity, and amiable manners, conciliated the warmest friendship and affection of Ben Jonson, a distinction which they well deserved, if we may judge of his character from the following 'epigram' by 'rare old Ben:—'"

"TO BENJAMIN RUDYERD.‡

If I would wish for truth and not for shew,
The aged Saturn's age and rites to know;
If I would strive to bring back time, and try
The world's pure gold and wise simplicity;
If I would virtue see as she was young,
And hear her speak with one and her first tongue;
If holiest friendship naked to the touch
I would restore, and keep it ever such;
I need no other arts but study thee,
Who prov'st all these were and again may be."

In the year 1618 Rudyerd received from James I. the office

* Athenæ Oxonienses, (Bliss's Edition) vol. iii. p. 456.

† The poems of the earl of Pembroke and sir B. Rudyerd were published in 1660, in one volume, 12mo.

‡ Ben Jonson's Works, by Gifford, vol. viii. p. 232, where the reader will find two other [illegible] by Jonson to his friend Rudyerd.

of Surveyor of the Court of Wards and Liveries,* and shortly afterwards the honor of knighthood. In 1620 he sat in parliament for Portsmouth, and was again a member of the house of commons in 1625. During the life of James he took but little part in the debates, but in the next reign became "a great orator in the house," his name appears in almost all the principal discussions of the period, and a celebrated modern writer does not hesitate to style him "one of the most upright and able statesmen of his time," and "one of the most eloquent men in that best age of English eloquence."† The course adopted by Rudyerd, who was a zealous Presbyterian, and subscribed the 'Solemn League and Covenant,' in 1643, was to mediate on all occasions betwixt the contending parties, and while resolutely struggling for the redress of grievances in church and state, to attain his object by patience and conciliation, and avert, if possible, the horrors of civil war.

The subjoined extracts from several of his speeches in the house of commons, will serve at once to illustrate his character, and to give our readers some idea of the parliamentary oratory of the period:—

In the first parliament of Charles I. (22nd June, 1626) Rudyerd opened the session by moving "to take such course to sweeten all things between king and people, that they might never afterwards disagree;" and in a subsequent "debate on grievances," in March, 1627,‡ warned his auditors that "if we persevere, the king to draw one way, the parliament another, the commonwealth must sink in the midst, but I hope better things of so grave, so wise an assembly: let us be curiously wary and careful to avoid all manner of contention, personal or real. The

* In the year 1646 the Court of Wards and Liveries was abolished by the legislature, and £6000 decreed to Rudyerd as a compensation for his loss of office. In 1660, immediately on the restoration of Charles II, a pamphlet appeared entitled "The Mystery of the Good Old Cause, &c." professing to give an account of the sums of money, offices, and estates, of which the leading members of the house of commons had robbed the treasury or despoiled the royalists. In this list we find the following entry:—"Sir Benjamin Rudyerd *received* £3000;" the author suppressing the real circumstances of the case, and with the usual mean malignity of reptiles who do the dirty work of factions, insinuating, though not asserting that Rudyerd had used his influence with the reigning party to enrich himself with the plunder of the public, or at the expense of his political antagonists.

† Southey's Book of the Church, (third edition) vol. ii. pp. 357—370.

‡ Hansard's Parliamentary History pp. 234—5.

hearts of kings are great as are their fortunes; then are they fitted to yield, when they are yielded unto: it is comely and mannerly that princes in all fair appearance should have the better of their subjects." While thus, however, Rudyerd strove to conciliate the sovereign, he was by no means unmindful of the many grievances of the people.—"Liberty" he exclaims* "is a precious thing, for every man may set his own price upon it, and he that doth not value it, deserves to be valued accordingly * * * * Out of all question the very point, the scope and drift of Magna Charta, was to reduce the regal to a legal power of imprisonment, or else it had not been worth so much contending for. * * * * For my own part, *I shall be very glad to see that good old, decrepid law of Magna Charta, which hath been so long kept in and lain bed-rid, as it were; I should be glad, I say, to see it walk abroad again, with new vigour and lustre*, for questionless it will be a general heartening to all." The conclusion of this speech presents a striking instance of Rudyerd's moderation and love of peace. "Now, Mr. Speaker, I will remember you only of one precept, and that of the wisest man, 'be not over wise, be not over just,' and he cited his reason 'for why wilt thou be desolate.' Sir, if justice and wisdom may be stretched to desolation, let us thereby learn that moderation is the virtue of virtues, and the wisdom of wisdoms. Let it be our master-piece so to carry our business, as we may keep parliaments on foot, for as long as they are frequent, there can be no irregular power, which though it cannot be broken at once, yet in a short time will be made weaker and moulder away. *There can be no total and final loss of liberty but by loss of parliaments, for as long as they last, what we cannot get at one time we may get at another.* Let no man think what I have said is the language of a private end, my aim is only for the good success of the whole, for I thank God my mind stands above any fortune that is to be gotten by base or unworthy means. NO MAN IS BOUND TO BE RICH OR GREAT, NO NOR TO BE WISE, BUT EVERY MAN IS BOUND TO BE HONEST. Out of my heart have I spoken."

In 1628 we find him strenuously supporting a "bill for the better maintenance of the inferior clergy," and descanting upon the injustice and impolicy of withholding from them due remu-

* Rushworth's Parliamentary History, p. 331

neration; thus compelling them, with the sentiments and education of gentlemen, to drag out existence on stipends quite inadequate to their support, and frequently inferior in amount to the wages of a journeyman mechanic. In Rudyerd's day this grievance was almost universal, and during the lapse of upwards of two hundred years, successive legislatures have done little to remove it. In a previous debate (in 1626) he had argued as well against "scandalous livings" as "scandalous ministers," and stated "he knew two ministers in Lancashire, who were found to be unlicensed alehouse keepers;" he now reminded the house, "in the first year of the king, there being then, as now, many accusations on foot against scandalous ministers, I was bold to tell the house that there were also scandalous livings, which were much the cause of the other; livings of five pounds, nay, even five marks a year: that men of parts would not be muzzled up to such pittances. * * * * Though the calling of ministers be never so glorious within, outward poverty will bring contempt upon them, *especially among those who measure men by the acre, and weigh them by the pound, which is indeed the greatest part of men.* * * * * For scandalous ministers, there is no man shall be more forward to have them severely punished than I will be, but let us deal with them as God hath dealt with us; God, before he made man, made the world, a handsome place for him to dwell in; so let us provide them convenient livings, and then (if they do amiss or neglect their duty) punish them in God's name, but till then, scandalous livings cannot but have scandalous ministers."*

In the Long Parliament, which assembled in November, 1640, Rudyerd was returned for Wilton, and we find him very early in the session exerting himself strenuously for the redress of grievances, and severely censuring the severities of archbishop Laud and others against the Puritans. "We well know what disturbances have been brought upon the church for vain petty trifles, how the whole church, the whole kingdom, hath been troubled where to place a metaphor, an altar. We have seen ministers, their wives, and families, undone against law, against conscience, against all bowels of compassion, about not dancing on Sundays; *what do these sort of men think will become of themselves when the master of the house shall come and find them*

* Parl. Hist. vol. ii p. 385.

thus beating their fellow-servants?" But though zealous in repressing what he considered the undue authority of the hierarchy, and in defending the Puritans whom he looked upon as suffering for conscience sake, Rudyerd refused to join with those who rushed into the opposite extreme, exerting his utmost efforts against the bill for the abolition of episcopacy, and the spoliation of the property of the deans and chapters. "One thing, sir, doth exceedingly trouble me, it turns me round about, it makes my whole reason vertiginous, which is, that so many do believe against the wisdom of all ages, that now there can be no reformation without destruction, as if every sick body must be presently knocked on the head, as past hope of cure. * * * We are very strict and curious to uphold our own property, and there is a great reason for it; are the clergy only a sort of men who have no property at all in that which is called theirs? I am sure they are Englishmen, they are subjects. If we pull down bishopricks and pull down cathedral churches, in a short time we must be forced to pull down colleges too, for scholars will live and die there as in cells, if there be no considerable preferment to invite them abroad. * * * * This is the next way to bring in barbarism, to make the clergy an unlearned contemptible vocation, not to be desired but by the basest of the people, and then where shall we find men able to convince an adversary? A clergyman ought to have a far greater proportion to live on than any other man of an equal condition; *he is not bred to multiply three-pences*, it becomes him not to live mechanically and sordidly, he must be given to hospitality. I do know, myself, a clergyman, no dignitary, whose books have cost him a thousand pounds, which, when he dies, may be worth to his wife and children about two hundred. * * * * I am as much for reformation, for purging and maintaining religion, as any man whatsoever, but I profess I am not for innovation, demolition, or abolition."* It does not appear that Rudyerd took any active part in the impeachments of the earl of Strafford or archbishop Laud, though his name appears in several of the committees appointed to manage the preliminaries of the former trial. In 1641 he pleaded earnestly for the sufferers who were ruined by the in-

* Debate in the house of commons, 21st June, 1641. Nalson's Mem. vol. ii. p. 598. Hist. Parl. Hist. vol. ii. p. 831.

surrection of the Irish Catholics. "These miserable people are made so, because of their religion: he that will not suffer for his religion is not worthy to be saved by it, and he is unworthy to enjoy it that will not relieve those who suffer for it."*

On the breaking out of the war between the king and parliament, which followed shortly after the debates we have above adverted to, Rudyerd, whose advanced age (he was now nearly seventy) prevented his taking any active part in the struggle, joined a party of the more moderate members of both houses, in conjunction with whom he endeavoured to bring about a pacification. Of these the principal were the earls of Northumberland, Holland, Lincoln, and Bedford, among the peers; Selden, Whitelock, Hollis, Waller, Pierrepoint, and Rudyerd, in the commons.† But their mediation, though well-meant, was unavailing: the indecisive battle of Edge-hill, the unlucky skirmish that broke up the parley at Brentford, in November, 1642, and the failure of the Oxford treaty in the succeeding spring, had exasperated both parties, and their alternate successes at the commencement of the civil war made negociation difficult: the subsequent triumphs of the parliamentarians rendered the concessions they demanded of the king exorbitant, and reconciliation seemed impossible. Still, however, Rudyerd persevered, and having subscribed the Solemn League and Covenant, and united himself to the more moderate presbyterians, laboured heartily, though unsuccessfully, for peace. In 1648, when the parliamentarians were everywhere victorious, and the king a prisoner in the Isle of Wight, another and a final effort at a settlement was made, and Rudyerd joined in voting that "the king's answers to the demands of both houses were a ground for peace." With the result our readers must be well acquainted; a small minority of the independents had recourse to open violence, and sending a band of soldiers under the command of colonel Pride, to Westminster, they "*purged the house*" (to use their own expression) of all who dared to murmur against their tyranny, or exercise

* It is worth remarking, as a proof that this rebellion and the subsequent massacre of the protestants were altogether sudden and unexpected, that Rudyerd declared in the course of this debate "I did know but the last year, here in England, some (and they no Papists,) who were resolved to make Ireland their retreat *as the safer kingdom of the two*."

† Hallam's Const. Hist. of Eng. (4to. ed.) vol. ii p. 3.

their rights as legislators in the furtherance of an effectual accommodation. Upwards of one hundred and fifty members were expelled on this occasion, and about forty, among whom was Rudyerd, imprisoned by the usurping faction. All hope of peace was now abandoned, and, having first joined with the secluded members in an energetic protest against the violence they had suffered, and all future acts of the self-constituted house of commons, Rudyerd retired indignant and despairing to his country seat at Woodhay, where he passed the residue of his life in privacy, with the consolation of reflecting, that, though unsuccessful in his endeavours to preserve the constitution, he had done his very utmost to prevent its overthrow. He survived the execution of king Charles for about ten years, and "at length" (says Wood) "having lived to a fair age, did willingly surrender up his last breath, on the 31st of May, in 1658."

HAMSTEAD MARSHALL.*

This parish is in the hundred of Kintbury Eagle, and is situate 4 miles west of Newbury. The manor was held of old by *Grand Sergeantry* of the kings of England, conditioned that the granters should for ever be the *Knight Marshalls*, according as the offices of Steward, Constable, and Lord High Chamberlain in those times were granted.† It was successively the property of Gilbert and Richard de Clare, lord marshalls, earls of Pembroke. John the third lord marshall, who had the office conferred upon him by Henry II. took the surname of Marshall, (1176) after passing through several of this family it came to Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk, lord Marshall, in right of Maud his mother, one of the sisters and heirs of the Marshalls. Thomas de Brotherton, earl of Norfolk, was in the 9th Edward II. made lord Marshall; he gave this manor in marriage with his daughter Alice to William

* Hamestede in the Domesday Survey.

† "Anciently they that had this office were only marshalls of the king's house, according as the same is now discharged by the knights marshall. But in succeeding times it grew to be a place of great power and honor, as it still continueth. At first they had the title of lord marshall only. Richard II was the first who by letters patent, in 1383, advanced them to the dignity of earl marshall, and withal gave them power to bear a staff of gold enamelled black at both ends, with the king's arms on the upper end and their own arms on the lower. - Heylyn's Help to Eng. Hist., p. 386.

de Montacute, in 1333.* It was afterwards in the family of Hankeford. In the reign of queen Elizabeth it belonged to the Parrys. Camden states that sir Thomas Parry, treasurer of the household to that queen, and the son of Thomas Parry, esq. of the same place, built a fine house at Hamstead Marshall. About the year 1620, this manor passed by purchase to the Cravens, and Hamstead Marshall became one of the chief seats of that family. In the year 1626, sir William Craven, son of sir William Craven, lord mayor of London, was created baron Craven, of Hamstead Marshall, and in 1662, for services which he had rendered to his exiled master during the protectorate of Cromwell, and the losses which he had sustained by confiscation, was created an earl. The same year, the house built by sir Thomas Parry having been pulled down, sir Balthazer Gerbier began a stately pile of building"† for him at Hamstead Marshall, which was finished in 1665. The house was almost wholly destroyed by fire in 1718, a singular fate for the mansion of this nobleman, who was so celebrated for his activity in assisting to extinguish fires in London and its suburbs, that it became a common saying, "that his horse (for he always attended on horseback at the first notice) smelt a fire as soon as it happened."

Sir Balthazer Gerbier, the architect, who professed also the art of painting, and was well known by his eccentric projects and numerous publications, died at Hamstead Marshall, while on a visit, in 1667, and lies buried in the parish church.

The present mansion was erected by the late earl of Craven, merely as a shooting lodge, and has been from time to time subsequently enlarged.

Upon the death of earl Craven in 1697, the earldom became extinct. The title of baron Craven of Hamstead Marshall, in consequence of an entail procured by the earl, devolved to the Cravens, of Combe Abbey, in Warwickshire, whose descendant was created earl of Craven in 1801.

Earl Craven is lord of the manor of Hamstead Marshall, and patron of the rectory, which is in the deanery of Newbury.

* "William de Montacute, Thomas Beauchamp, and Edmund Mortimer did severally and successively discharge the office of lord marshall, but whether as deputies for the lady Margaret, daughter and heir of Thomas de Brotherton, *nondum plane constat*."—Heylyn, p. 308.

† After the model of the Castle of Heidelberg.

In the middle aisle of the church, near the pulpit, is the following inscription:—

Here lyeth the Body of
Sr BALTHAZER GERBIER, Kt Archt
who built a stately pile of Building
in the years 1602 to 1665, for the
Rt. Hon. William, Earl of Craven,
at Hampsted Marshall, the greatest
part of which was destroyed by Fire
in the year 1718,
He died in the year 1667.

At the entrance into the chancel on the south side, was the following inscription:*—

Here lyeth that goodly and godly man Mr. Richard Smith of Hampsted, of the Age of 67 Years, deceased the 29th of August 1637. His Will was, not to be moved out of his Tombe till the Day of Doome; and he hath given 6s. 8d. for a Sermon to be preached on Munday in Whitsun Week for ever; and he hath given 10s. to the Poore of this Plase of Hamsted for ever.—

Benefactions to the Poor.

A.D. 1662, Lady Parry gave £11, the interest to be distributed annually among such poor families as receive no collection from the parish.

Mr. Richard Smith, of this parish, gave eight shillings yearly, from a piece of land lying in Ray Mead, in the parish of Welford, to be distributed to such widows of the parish as receive no collection.

ENBORNE,†

In the hundred of Kintbury Eagle, lies about 2½ miles nearly west of Newbury. The manor of East Enborne was successively in the families of Rogers and Essex. Sir William Essex gave it to Henry VIII. in 1543. The manor of West Enborne, or Enborne Cheney, was successively in the families of Cranleye, Wodelock, St. Amand, and Cheyne. John Cheyne gave it to Henry VIII. in 1542. Sir Thomas Gawdy possessed both these manors in 1588. Sir Thomas Parry, of Hamstead Marshall was possessed of both in 1590; they were afterwards in the

* Ashmole.

† Anciently in the Domesday Survey

Babingtons, and about the year 1622 became the property of sir William Craven, from whom they have descended to the present proprietor, the earl of Craven.

There is a remarkable and well-known antient custom in these manors, which is, that if the wife of a copyholder should marry again, or be guilty of incontinency, she forfeits her free bench, or life interest in her late husband's copyhold, which is not recoverable but by her submitting to ride into court upon a black ram, repeating some ludicrous lines, which end with a petition for her husband's land, on which the steward of the manor is obliged to reinstate her in the copyhold. At every court the jury still present this as one of the antient customs of the manor: the penalty has not been literally enforced within the memory of man, but it is said that a commutation has been received in lieu of it, which, perhaps, may have been more readily accepted, from the difficulty of procuring a proper animal for the purpose.

Lord Craven is patron of the rectory, which is in the deanery of Newbury.

The parish church has the appearance of a Saxon building; indications of arches of that style are now visible. In the chancel is a double stone stall: the original font is in very good preservation.

There are the following memorials:—

On the chancel floor, on a black tombstone.

HERE LYETH THE
REV^D HENRY CRAVEN, A.M.
RECTOR OF HAMSTEAD MARSHALL,
IN THIS COUNTY,
AND ALSO OF THIS PARISH,
DYED THE 23^D DAY OF
OCTOBER, 1770, AGED 60.

On a plain stone in the north corner of the chancel.

In Memory of
The Reverend Mr.
WILLIAM DASHWOOD,
Rector of this PARISH,
who depar^d this life
the 10th of July, 1734.
In the 62^d year of his
Age.

On the south side of the chancel.

Sacred
To the Memory of the
Rev. NOWES LLOYD, A.M.
Rector of this Parish,
In whose character
were united the
Learning of a Divine,
The Manners of a Gentleman,
the Virtues of a Christian.
He departed this Life
January 28th, 1789,
Aged 69 Years.

On the south side of the church, in the churchyard.

IN MEMORY
of
CHARLES LLOYD,
the only son of the Rev. N. LLOYD,
Rector of this Parish,
who
(When eight other Persons in the
same Family and at the same time
recovered from the Small Pox,) Died of
that Distemper, on the 11th day of April
1771, in the 7th year of his Age.

"A pleasing Form, with gentlest Manners join'd;
An infant Temper, with a manly Mind;
With genuine native Elegance endued;
Modest, tho' Free; Lively, yet not Rude;
A Heart which Nature early taught to move
With filial Piety, fraternal Love;
Above his tender years with Sense inspir'd;
By All commended, and by All admired.
Such was't THOU, CHARLES,
Such thy GOD saw THEE—pleased—and to repay
Thy growing merit took the speediest way;
Snatch'd THEE from hence, and kindly placed THEE THERE,
Where Souls like THINE are his peculiar care.
Each Grace,—each Virtue were already given,
Nothing was left him to bestow—but—HEAVEN."

On a neat marble tablet, south side of the chancel.

SACRED
To the Memory of
ELIZABETH COWLING,
Daughter of the late *HENRY COWLING, ESQ.*
of Richmond, Yorkshire,
She died September 26th, 1800,
Aged 31 Years.

Her Sister, the Wife of
B BU'NBU'RY, Esq.
of in this *County*,
caused this tablet to be erected

ADDENDA.

The following Latin list was found stuck into a volume of Latin MSS. with which it has no other connexion. There is no date discoverable; it is written in a very old Court hand, upon a small piece of old parchment. The contractions used make it difficult to decipher one or two of the names.

Iter Frem Johem Lachbury seniorem Hbet fribz minoribz de Redyng.	Itinerarium of Brother John Lachbury the Elder, Dwelling with the Minor Brethren of Redyng, (Abbey of Reading.)
Nom feoffator Dmij de Newbury	Names of the Lords of Fees of Newbury
Henricus Percy, Comes Northumbr.	Henry Percy, earl of Northumberland
Robtus Dns De Ponyngges	Robert Lord Ponyngges (Poynings)
Johes Bohun Johes Bygot Edus Hastyngs Gullus Tirwhit } Milites	John Bohun John Bygot Edw. Hastyngs Wm. Tirwhit } Knights
Thom Foxle	Thos. Foxle
Gullus Rynittio	William Rynittio
Gullus Sydeney	William Sydeney
Johes Lyle	John Lyle
Gullus Hornde	Wm. Hornde
Ricus Pykott	Richard Pykott
Molyneux	Molyneux
ff 327.	ff 327.

From the Lansdowne Collection of MSS. &c. in the library of the British Museum:—

Maye yt please yr. good Lpp to be adutysed, that we haue prused the artycles sent from yr. Lpp unto us, touchinge the encorporatynge of the Towne of Newberie in the Countye of Berks, and uppon consideracon had thereof we haue sett downe certeyne notes wherein we thinke fitt to haue some of those artycles reformed, wch notes togeather with the same artycles we

haue sent unto yr. Lpp enclosed herein. And so referringe the same unto yr. Lpps honorable consideracon, we humblie take our leaves. From London, this xiiith of September, 1594.

Yr. good Lpp's humblie at
comandement
WYLLM. PERRYHAM
ED. DREWE.

To the Ryght Honorable and our verye good Lorde,
the Lorde Hyghe Treasurer of England.
(with spede.)
Endorsed, Ld. Ch. Baron, Mr. Serjeaunt Drewe,
Their opinion touchinge the articles for Newberye.

The Latitude of Beacon Hill, is	51° 18′ 45″
The Latitude of Newbury Steeple is	51° 24′ 5″
The Longitude of ditto	1° 19′ 9″

The above were ascertained by capt. Mudge in the year 1793, when making the trigonometrical survey under the duke of Richmond.

Pedigree of the Croft family.

The family of Croft is of great antiquity, and "presents one of the very few instances in which property has descended from father to son for more than seven hundred years," and that "in almost every generation from the commencement of the 14th century, records exist of the public services of its representatives." The name is undoubtedly Saxon: and in Doomsday Book, Bernard de Croft is stated to have held the tenement of Croft, in Herefordshire, which continued in the possession of his descendants until the last century. Sir Archer Croft, third baronet, of Dunstan Park, Berks, cut off the entail of Croft Castle, and sold this ancient property to Thomas Johnnes, esq.

Sir Hugh de Croft, lord of Croft, county Hereford, knight of the Bath, 23 Edward I. 1305; knight of the shire for that county, 8 Edward II. 1315. Hugh de Croft, son of the above, married Maud, daughter and co-heiress of Brian de Brampton, county Hereford, knight. Sir John de Croft, son and heir of

the above, knight of the shire for the county of Hereford, 31 Edward III. 1357. Sir John de Croft, knight, son and heir of the above, captain of the castle of Merk, 4 Henry IV. 1402. He was frequently employed in negociations in Flanders, between that year and 1404. William Croft, esq. summoned to serve in the wars in France, 7 Henry VI. 1428. Sir John de Croft, married Janet, third daughter and coheiress of Owen Glendower. Sir Richard Croft, knight, general receiver of the earldom of March, in the shires of Hereford and Salop, and in the lordship of Wigmore, &c. &c. which offices are specially reserved to him in the act of resumption, 1 Henry VII. 1485, treasurer of the king's household, made a knight banneret at the battle of Stoke, 6th of June, 1487. He brought Edward, prince of Wales to king Edward IV. after the battle of Tewkesbury, and is described as a "wyse and valyant knight." Sir Edward Croft, son and heir of the above, knighted by Henry VIII. appointed one of the learned counsel to the princess Mary, afterwards queen, with a fee of £10 per annum. Sir James Croft, knighted at Westminster, 24th November, 1 Edward VI. 1547; appointed governor of Haddington, 1549, lord deputy of Ireland, 1551, deputy constable of the tower, 1552, one of the lords of the marches, 1557, governor of Berwick, 1560, comptroller of the household to queen Elizabeth, died 4th September, 1590, and is buried in the chapel of St. John the evangelist, in Westminster Abbey. He is described by Vincent as "pauperissimus miles:" a portrait of him is now in the possession of Archer J. Croft, of Greenham Lodge, county of Berks, esq. Sir Herbert Croft, of Croft Castle, knight of the shire for the county of Hertford, 1592, 1601, 1603, and 1614. In 1590 he was one of the individuals recommended to be of the council of Wales, by the earl of Pembroke. He retired to the monastery of Douay, and became a monk thereof, in February, 1617, died there in April, 1622, and was buried in the Benedictine chapel of that place. Sir William Croft, knt. gentleman of the privy chamber to king Charles I., M.P. for Malmesbury, distinguished himself at the battle of Edge-hill, and was taken prisoner at Hereford, 25th April, 1643: colonel in the royalist army; slain near Hopton Castle, 8th June, 1645. Herbert Croft, entered into holy orders, and became chaplain to king Charles I. in 1640, in which year he was admitted D.D.

prebend of Worcester, and 10th July, 1641, appointed canon of Windsor; dean of Hereford, 1644, elected bishop of Hereford, 21st January, 1662; died 18th May 1691, æt. 88, buried in the cathedral of Hereford 28th of the same month. A portrait of him is now in the possession of Mr. A. J. Croft, of Greenham Lodge. Sir Herbert Croft, knight of the shire for the county of Hereford; created a baronet 18th November, 1671: married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Archer, of Umbuslade, county of Warwick: died 3rd November, 1720. Sir Archer Croft, second baronet, baptised at Croft, 3rd April, 1683, M.P. for Leominster, 1722, commissioner for trade and plantations, 1730, M.P. for Boralston, 1727; died 10th December, 1753; he married Frances, daughter and heiress of brigadier-general Waring, of Dunstan Park, county of Berks. Sir Archer Croft, third baronet, born 1731; married Elizabeth Charlotte, daughter of Ashley Cowper, esq. clerk of the house of lords, by whom he had three daughters, and a son who died in his infancy. Charlotte Elizabeth, eldest daughter and co-heiress, married in 1778 to James Woodcock, of Berkhampstead, county of Herts, esq. who took the surname and arms of Croft, by royal sign manual, 22nd December, 1792, and on the dismantling of Dunstan Park, built Greenham Lodge, county of Berks, the present family seat. Sir John Croft, fourth baronet, succeeded his brother in the dignity, 1792; died at Bath, 4th December, 1797. Rev. sir Herbert Croft, B.D. fifth baronet, succeeded to the dignity on the death of his kinsman, sir John Croft, 1797; born 1st November, 1751, died at Paris 26th of April, 1816. Sir Richard Croft, sixth baronet, succeeded his brother in the dignity, April, 1816; born 9th January, 1762, died 13th February, 1818. Sir Thomas Elmsley Croft, 7th baronet, born 2nd September, 1798, and was succeeded at his death in the dignity by his son sir Archer Denman Croft, eighth and present baronet.

Progresses of queen Elizabeth and king James I.

It is observed by Mr. Nichols in his preface to his "Progresses of Queen Elizabeth," that "the plan of popularity which she laid down from the beginning of her reign, is marked by no trait so strongly as her practice of making progresses about her dominions." Indeed, so frequent were these royal journeys,

undertaken it should seem as well for purposes of policy as pleasure, that almost all her principal nobility had in turn the honour and the expense of entertaining her. "When it pleaseth her in the summer season (says an old chronicler) to recreate herself abroad, and view the estate of the country, and hear the complaints of her poor commons injured by her unjust officers, or their substitutes, every nobleman's house is her palace, where she continueth during pleasure, until she return again to some of her own, in which she remaineth as long as she pleaseth:" Mr. Hume, in commenting on this passage very well remarks "if she relieved the people from oppressions, (to whom it seems the law could give no relief) her visits were a great oppression to the nobility."* The royal county, situate at an easy distance from

* See his History of England, vol. v. p. 486. note k. (8vo ed. 1792.) A few extracts from the correspondence of some of the principal nobility of Elizabeth, will fully prove the accuracy of Hume's remark. Thus, the earl of Bedford writes to lord Burleigh in the year 1572; "I am now going to prepare for her Majestie's coming to Woborne, which shall be done in the best and most hartiest manner that I can. *I trust yr. L. will have in remembraunce to provide and helpe that her Majestie's tarrieng be not above two nights and a daye, for for so long tyme do I prepare.* I pray God the rowmes and lodgings there may be to her Majestie's contentacon for the tyme. If I could make them better upon such a sodeyn, then wold I: be assured they should be better than they be."—*Ellis's Orig. Letters, 1st Series, vol. ii. p. 207.* The magic pencil of sir Walter Scott has rendered every detail of the queen's "progresse to Kenilworthe" familiar to all our readers, the expense incurred by the earl of Leicester must have been enormous. Burleigh himself entertained Elizabeth at his country residence no less than twelve times, the queen residing with him for several weeks together, and each visit costing the lord treasurer from two to three thousand pounds. "My house at Theobald's, (says Burleigh in a letter to a friend, dated August 14th, 1585,) *was begun by me with a meane measure, but I encreased it by occasion of her Majesty's often coming*, whom to please I never woulde omit to strain myselfe to more charges than building it. And yet not without some especial direction of her Majesty. Upon fault found with the small mesure of her chamber, *which was in good measure for me*, I was forced to enlarge a room for a larger chamber."—*Prog. Eliz. vol. i.* [illegible]205. There can be no doubt that Burleigh often made these visits subservient to his political purposes, and the advancement of himself and family in the state, but his royal mistress was through life remarkable for her parsimony, though she would not unfrequently bestow a knighthood on her entertainers, in lieu of more substantial recompense for their hospitality. "I suppose you have heard of her Majesty's great entertainment at Tibbuls, of her knighting sir Robert Cecill, and of the expectation of his advancement to the secretaryship, but so it is (as we said in court) *that the knighthood must serve for both.*" Sir T. Wylde to sir R. Sydney, June, 1591.—*Prog. Eliz. vol. iii. p. 74.* Many similar anecdotes might be related, if our limits would permit; the following letter, however, written in November, 1604, by Mr. Edmund Lascelles, to the earl of Shrewsbury, throws so much light upon the character and peculiarities of the queen's successor, and is in itself so curious, that we cannot forbear inserting it. "Thear was one of the king's speciall hounds called *Jowler*, missing one day, the king was much displeased that he was wanted, notwithstanding went a hunting. The next day, when they weare in the fielde, Jowler came in amongst the rest of the hounds; the king was told of him and was very glad, and loking on him spied a paper about his neck, and in the paper was written 'Good Mr. Jowler, we pray you speake to the king, for he beares you every day and so doth he not us,' that it will please his Majestie to go

the metropolis, and containing Windsor Castle, her favourite residence, within its limits, would of course be frequently selected by Elizabeth as the scene of these excursions; and we find throughout her reign, repeated notices of her progresses to Reading, and her temporary residence at the chief mansions in its vicinity.

In 1568 the queen was certainly at Newbury, but it does not appear by whom she was entertained, nor does Mr. Nichols cite any authority for the query which he hazards, whether she was lodged at the house of Henry Winchcombe, "the heir of the great clothier John Winchcombe, commonly called Jack of Newberry."

In 1574 Elizabeth commenced a progress from the mansion of sir Edward Umpton, of Wadley, near Farringdon,* and received

back to London, for els the countrey wilbe undoon; all our provition is spent already, and we are not able to entertayne him longer.' It was taken for a jeast, and so passed over, for his Majestie entends to ly theare yet a fortnet."—*Nichols' Prog. James I. vol. i. p. 405.*

* Sir Edward Umpton, of Wadley, was a gentleman of considerable wealth and importance during the reign of Elizabeth; he was sheriff of Berks in 1569, and subsequently created a knight of the Bath. He married Anne, widow of the earl of Warwick, eldest daughter of Edward Seymour, duke of Somerset, protector of the realm during the early part of the reign of his nephew, Edward VI. beheaded on Tower Hill, Jan. 1552. His son, sir Henry Umpton, was sent in the year 1591, as ambassador to the court of France, where (says Fuller) "he behaved himself right stoutly in queen Elizabeth's behalf," and having been informed that the Duke de Guise had slandered her, he addressed to him the following defiance:—

"Forasmuch, as lately in the lodging of my lord Du Mayne, and in publie elsewhere, impudently, indiscreetly, and over-boldly, yon spoke badly of my soveraign, whose sacred person here in this country I represent, to maintain both by word and weapon her honour (which never was called in question among people of honesty and virtue) I say you have wickedly lied in speaking so basely of my soveraign, and you shall do nothing else but lye whensoever you shall dare to taxe her honour. Moreover that her sacred person, being one of the most compleat and vertuous princesses that lives in this world, ought not to be evil spoken of by the tongue of such a perfidious traytour to her law and country as you are. And herenpon I do defy you, and challenge your person to mine, with such manner of armes as you shall like or choose, be it either on horseback or on foot. Nor would I have you think any inequality of person between us, I being issued of as great a race and noble house (every way) as yourself. So assigning me an indifferent place, I will there maintain my word, and the lye which I gave you, and which you should not endure if you have any courage at all in you. If you consent not to meet me hereupon, I will hold you, and cause you to be generally held, for the arrantest coward and most slanderous slave that lives in all France. I expect your answer."—*Nichols' Prog. Eliz. vol. iii. p. 95. Fuller's Worthies of England, p. 94, (fol. ed. 1662.)* It does not appear that any hostile meeting was the result of this challenge; the Duke de Guise, to whom it was addressed, was the son of Henry of Lorraine, Duke de Guise, chief of the catholic league against the French Huguenots, and one of the principal contrivers of the bloody massacre of St. Bartholomew's, A.D. 1572. Sir Henry Umpton afterwards joined the English auxiliaries of "Le bon Henri," in whose camp at La Fere he died in 1595. His remains were brought to England, and interred at Farringdon

on the occasion from her hospitable landlord "one juell of golde, garnished with dyamonds and rubyes, and fyve perles pendante, one bigger than the rest." During the years 1575 and 1592, the queen was again in Berkshire, but no accounts of either of these visits have come down to us: in 1601, however, she visited the neighbourhood of Newbury, and the following particulars of her progress, detailed in letters from a Mr. Chamberlain to his friend sir Dudley Carleton, will, we feel assured, be highly interesting to our readers.

"On the 13th of August, (1601) the queen came to Windsor, and is expected shortly at Mr. Comptroller's,* at Causham, (Caversham) and so the progress should hold as far as Littlecote, a house of the Lord Chief Justice, in Wiltshire;† but there be so many endeavours to hinder it, that I will lay no great wager of the proceeding."‡

In spite however of the opposition here alluded to, the queen pursued her journey into Berks, to the no small annoyance of the high sheriff, Samuel Backhouse, esq. of Swallowfield, whose consternation on receiving the tidings of her approach, and conscious inability to play the courtier, are graphically described by Chamberlain.

"Our friend the sheriff of Berkshire, was almost out of heart at the first news of the queen's coming into the country, *because he was altogether unacquainted with courting*, but yet he performed it very well and sufficiently, being exceedingly well horsed and attended, which won him great commendation on all sides.

"The queen's first remove from Windsor was to Mr. Warder's, then to Reading. During her abode there, she went one day to dinner to Mr. Comptroller, at Causham; Mr. Green, sheriff of Oxfordshire, met her at the bridge very well accompanied. Mr. Comptroller made great cheer, and entertained her with many devices of singing, dancing, playing wenches, and such like. At

* "Mr. Comptroller," was sir William Knollys, knt. comptroller of the household in 1570, treasurer of the household in 1579, and successively created baron Knollys, viscount Wallingford, and earl of Banbury, by James I. 'Mr. Comptroller' seems to have been a man of taste in matters relating to the toilette, for on the 1st of January, 1603, he presented to queen Elizabeth, as a new year's gift, "a round kirtle ash coloured cloth of silver, like stripes of trees of orange-coloured silk, with eight buttons embroidered like cutunots" He died in 1631.

† Sir John Popham, then Lord Chief Justice of the court of Queen's Bench

‡ Prog. Eliz. vol. iii. p. 507.

her going thence, she made three knights, your cousin sir Edward Goodwin, sir Edward Fettiplace, and sir Richard Warde. But what need I trouble you with all these things when your brother was there in person, who can relate all at large, 'et quorum pars magna fuit?' for I imagine his small troop was half drowned in the sea of such shews as the Oxfordshire men made, when sir Anthony Cope, sir Richard Waynman, and the rest set up their sails, and Mr. Dormer for his part came with ten or twelve men well mounted.

"Two or three days after, the queen dined with sir Edward Norris at Englefield, where I heard of no wonders, but that she knighted sir Richard Stafford and his lady's father. Some do make much marvel that he would be the means to make such a sir John Norris.

"From thence the queen removed to sir Humphrey Foster's,* and so meant to have gone on to the Lord Chief Justice's, and the earl of Hertford, if these Frenchmen† had not stayed her: but now I think she be at the furthest for this year, and they say she is driving back to Windsor, where at her last being, I forgot to tell you that she made a step to Mr. Attorney's,‡ at Stoke, where she was most sumptuously entertained, and presented with jewels and other gifts to the amount of a thousand or twelve hundred pounds."

It does not appear that during the short remainder of her reign, the queen revisited this part of Berkshire; her successor, however, during his first progress, was with his queen at Farringdon, and on the 7th and 8th of September, 1603, visited dame Dorothy Umpton, the relict of sir Henry, at Wadley. It had been originally intended that the king and queen should be the guests of sir Thomas Parry, at Hamstead Marshall, on the 19th and 20th of September, and of Mr. Thomas Dolman, at Shaw House, on the 21st, but both these visits were prevented by some apprehensions of the plague, and by public business which required the presence of the king at Winchester. That

* Sir Humphrey Foster's seat was at Aldermaston, he had been sheriff of Berks in 1592

† An embassy from Henry IV. of France to queen Elizabeth.

‡ Stoke Pogeis, in Buckinghamshire, was the residence of sir Edward Coke, then "Mr Attorney General," and afterwards the renowned Lord Chief Justice of the courts of Common Pleas and King's Bench under king James I.

the royal party travelled through the town of Newbury, is, we think, proved sufficiently by a letter of the lady Arabella Stuart,* who accompanied them, to her uncle, the earl of Shrewsbury, in which the lovely and ill-fated writer after detailing several of the adventures of their journey, and alluding with great sprightliness to the chit-chat and light scandal of the day, declares with most amusing naivetè, "If ever thear wear such a vertu as curtesy at the court, I marvell what is becom of it, for I protest I see little or none of it but in the queene, who ever since her coming to NEWBURY hathe spoken to the people as she passeth, and receiveth theyr prayers wt. thanckes and thanckfull countenance, barefaced,† to the great contentement of natif and forreign people; for I wod. not have you thinck the French Imbassadour would leave that attractive vertu of oure late queene El. unremembered or uncomended when he saw it imitated by our most gratious queene, lest you should thincke we infect even our neighbours wt. incivility. But what a theame have rude I gotten unawares. It is your owne vertu I comend by the foile of the contrary, and so thincking on you, my penne accused myselfe before I was aware, therefore I will put it to silence for this time, only adding a short but most hearty prayer for your prosperity in all kindes, and so humbly take my leave. From Woodstocke, the 16th of Sept. (1603)

Yr. lo. neece,

ARBELLA STUART."

We are not aware that James I. was ever afterwards at Newbury. We have already alluded to the visits of Charles I. and his successor, pp. 58 and 140.

* Should any of our readers wish for further information respecting this innocent and amiable victim to the jealous fears of James I. we beg to refer them to the "Loves of the Lady Arabella," as detailed by D'Israeli, in the first volume of his second series of the 'CURIOSITIES OF LITERATURE."

† *i. e.* without a mask. Ladies at this period usually wore masks when travelling.

A CATALOGUE OF PLANTS

FOUND IN

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF NEWBURY.

The neighbourhood of Newbury presents unusual attractions for the lover of Botany, whose researches are sure to be repaid by a large proportion of the rare, as well as beautiful, among nature's flowery treasures. The great diversity of soil—the combination of chalk, bog, sand, and gravel, together with what may be called the almost mountainous character of some of its features, afford a remarkable variety of plants, among which the interesting family of Orchideæ holds a conspicuous station. The following list has been drawn up after a very short acquaintance with the neighbourhood, and must necessarily therefore be imperfect: it will, nevertheless, be found to bear ample testimony to the truth of the foregoing remarks.

DIANDRIA, CLASS II.

Ligústrum vulgáre, (Privet)
Verónica serpýllifolia, (thyme-leaved Speedwell)
————Anagállis, (Water Speedwell)
————Beccabúnga, (Brooklime)
————officinális, (common Speedwell)
————montána, (Mountain Speedwell)
————Chamædrys, (Germander Speedwell)
————hederifólia, (Ivy-leaved Speedwell)
————agréstis, (green procumbent field Speedwell)
————polita, (grey procumbent field Speedwell)
————arvénsis, (Wall Speedwell)
Pinguícula vulgáris, (common Butterwort)

A very rare and curious plant, found in some boggy places in West Hagbourn, but not very plentiful.—J.L.*

* Mr. Job Lousley, Hampstead Norris.

Lýcopus europæus, (common Gipsy-wort, or Water Horehound)

In the ditch between West Hagbourn meadow and the moor, and in several other ditches at Hagbourn, Upton, and Blewbury, but it is not a very common plant.—J.L. Northcroft and Wash Water.—J.B.*

Sálvia praténsis, (Meadow Clary or Sage)

A very rare plant in this part of the country, found on a dry bank at the field side at Blewbury near the Wheel inn, and on a dry bank by the side of the turnpike road near the sign of the Barley Mow, and betwixt Blewbury and Aston.—J.L.

Sálvia verbenáca, (Wild English Clary or Sage)
Circæa lutetiána, (common Enchanter's Nightshade)
Fráxinus excélsior, (common Ash)
Lémna mínor (lesser Duckweed)
Anthoxánthum odorátum, (sweet-scented Vernal-Grass)

TRIANDRIA, CLASS III.

Valeriána díoica, (small marsh Valerian)
———— officinális, (great wild Valerian)
Iris Pseud-ácorus, (yellow Water-Iris or Corn-flag)

Very common in muddy ditches, grows in Hagbourn moor, in Church moor at Blewbury, and in all the ditches that have much mud in the Vale of Berks—the flower is very fine.—J.L. Wash Water and Bagnor Marsh.—J.B.

Schœnus nígricans, (black Bog-rush)

"Near Newbury."—Baxter.

Rhynchóspora álba, (white Beak-rush)

Bog on Snelsmore common.

Scírpus lacústris, (Lake Club-rush or Bull-rush)

Ditches at Hagbourn and Blewbury.—J.L.

Eleócharis palústris, (creeping Spike-rush)
Erióphorum angustifólium, (common Cotton-grass)
Nárdus stricta, (Mat-grass)
Alopecúrus praténsis, (Meadow Fox-tail Grass)
————geniculátus, (floating Fox-tail Grass)
Phaláris arundinácea, (Reed Canary-grass)
Phléum praténse, (common Cat's-tail-grass, Timothy-grass)
Mílium effúsum, (spreading Millet-grass)

In the woods about Hampstead Norris; in Down Wood.—J.L.

* Mr. J. Bunny, Surgeon, Newbury.

Agróstis vulgáris, (fine Bent-grass)
——— álba, (Marsh Bent-grass)
Catabrósa aquática, (water Whorl-grass)

Bagnor marsh.

Aíra cœspitósa, (turfy Hair-grass)
—— flexuósa, (waved Hair-grass)
—— præcox, (early Hair-grass)

Greenham and other commons.

Mélica uniflóra, (Wood Melic-grass)
——— cærúlea, (purple Melic-grass)

Cold-Ash common.

Mélica cærúlea, var. β.

Fence Wood.

Hólcus móllis, (creeping Soft-grass)

Common in the dry meadows at Blewbury and Hampstead Norris—J.I.

Hólcus lanátus, (Meadow Soft-grass)
Arrhenathérum avenáceum, (common Oat-like grass)
Póa aquática, (Reed Meadow-grass)

Ham marsh.

Póa flúitans, (floating Meadow-grass)
——triviális, (roughish Meadow-grass)

Very common in the meadows at Blewbury and elsewhere.—J.I.

Póa praténsis, (smooth-stalked Meadow-grass)

Very common in nearly every meadow.

Póa nemorális, (wood Meadow-grass)
Bríza média, (common Quaking-grass)
Dáctylis glomeráta, (rough Cock's-foot-grass)

Grows on banks and in rough places about Blewbury.—J.I.

Cynosúrus cristátus, (crested Dog's-tail-grass)
Festúca ovína, (Sheep's Fescue-grass)
——— praténsis, (Meadow Fescue-grass)
Brómus gigánteus, (tall Brome-grass)
——— asper, (hairy Wood Brome-grass)
——— stérilis, (barren Brome-grass)
——— mollis, (soft Brome grass)

Brómus eréctus, (upright Brome-grass)

Lane leading to North Heath.

Avéna fátua, (wild Oat)

On the banks of fields about Blewbury, but not very plentiful.—J.L.

Avéna flavéscens, (yellow Oat-grass)

Arúndo Phragmites, (common Reed)

Hórdeum murínum, (Wall Barley)

Grows under the mud walls about Blewbury, and in many other places in the Vale of Berks.—J.L.

Tríticum canínum, (fibrous-rooted Wheat-grass)

Sidmonton lane.

Tríticum répens, (creeping Wheat-grass or Couch-grass)

Brachypódium sylváticum, (slender false Brome-grass)

Polycárpon tetraphýllum, (four-leaved All-seed)

In waste places at Hampstead Norris and East Ilsley, and by Chance barn, Blewbury.—J.L.

TETRANDRIA, CLASS IV.

Dípsacus sylvéstris, (wild Teasel)

Common in the ditches about Blewbury (particularly in Blewbury meadow) and Hagbourn, also in ditches and by the road sides about Hampstead Norris. —J.L.

Knáutia arvénsis, (Field Knautia)

Scabiósa succísa, (Devil's-bit Scabious)

————columbária, (small Scabious)

Lane leading to North Heath, and other places.

Gálium vérum, (yellow Bed-straw)

——— cruciátum, (Crosswort Bed-straw, Mug-wort)

Near Chapel Row.

Gálium palústre, (white Water Bed-straw)

——— saxátile, (smooth Heath Bed-straw)

——— Mollúgo, (great Hedge Bed-straw)

——— Aparine, (Goose-grass or Cleavers)

Aspérula odoráta, (sweet Wood-ruff)

————Cynánchica, (Small Woodruff, Squinancy-wort)

Watership chalk pit, Beacon hill.—J.B.

Sherárdia arvénsis, (blue Sherardia)

Plantágo májor, (greater Plantain)

———— média, (hoary Plantain)

———— lanceoláta, (Ribwort Plantain)

———— Corónopus, (Buck's-horn Plantain)

Hermitage common, Blewbury downs, by Chance barn, and on other light soils.—J.L.

Córnus sanguínea, (wild Cornel or Dogwood)

In Park coppice and Beech wood, Hampstead Norris, but not very common. —J.L.

Parietária officinális, (common Pellitory-of-the-wall)

On Hagbourn Tower, and on Mr. Butler's house, Upton.—J.L.

Alchemílla arvénsis, (Field Lady's Mantle or Parsley Piert)

Corn-fields, North Heath.

Sanguisórba officinális, (great Burnet)

Lid's bank, Mr. Lousley's orchard, and all the pastures about Blewbury and Hampstead Norris.—J.L. Ditches about Greenham mills.—Mr. Bicheno.

Ilex Aquifólium, (common Holly)

Sidmonton Common and Pen Wood.

Potamogéton dénsus, (opposite-leaved Pond-weed)

River Lambourn near Ham mills.

Potamogéton perfoliátus, (perfoliate Pond-weed)

River Lambourn near Ham mills.

Potamogéton ruféscens, (reddish Pond-weed)

Hamstead Park.

Sagína procúmbens, (procumbent Pearl-wort)

Eling common.—J.L.

Sagína apétala, (annual small-flowered Pearl-wort)

Tillæa muscósa, (Mossy Tillæa)

In the poor soils about Frilsham.

Radíola millegrána, (Thyme-leaved Flax-seed)—Miss Cotes.

PENTANDRIA, CLASS V.

Echium vulgáre, (common Viper's Bugloss)

By the road sides about Blewbury and other villages, particularly on a road called Bezel way, leading from Sheen Croft to Aston.—J.L. Chalk pit at Waterchip and fields near Donnington. Rather common.—J.B.

Lithospérmum officinále, (common Gromwell, Grey Mill, or Grey Millet

By the ditch side in West Hagbourn meadow; under the hedge in Lower Farm Close, Blewbury; and in a few other places, but by no means common. The seeds are beautiful, and when ripe make good beads.—J.L.

Lithospérmum arvénse, (Corn Gromwell or Bastard Alkanet)

In the corn-fields about Blewbury and many other places, but not very common.—J.L.

Sýmphytum officinále, (common Comfrey)
Borágo officinális, (common Borage)

A scarce plant. In the street near the Load of Mischief, in the road on the south side of Blewbury, and in a few other places. A beautiful flower. —J.L.

Lycópsis arvénsis, (small Bugloss)

Shaw fields.—J.B.

Myosótis palústris, (great Water Scorpion-grass or Forget-me-not)
———cæspitósa, (tufted Water Scorpion-grass)

Bog on Woodhay common.

Myosótis arvénsis, (Field Scorpion-grass)
———versícolor, (yellow and blue Scorpion-grass)
Cynoglóssum officinále, (common Hound's-tongue)

A rare plant in these parts. Amongst the bushes round West Hagbourn meadow, and in the Cow Lane, but not plentiful.—J.L.

Anagállis arvénsis, (scarlet Pimpernel or Poor Man's Weather-glass)
Anagállis tenélla, (Bog Pimpernel)

Bogs in Snelsmore and Wash commons, &c.

Lysimáchia vulgáris, (great yellow Loosestrife)

On the banks of the river Thames about Wallingford and Mungewell, but not common; it grows in one spot in Blewbury meadow; a scarce plant—J.L.

Lysimáchia Némorum, (yellow Pimpernel or Wood Loosestrife)
———Nummulária, (creeping Loosestrife, Money-wort, or Herb-Twopence)
Prímula vulgáris, (common Primrose)
——— elátior, (Oxlip Primrose)

In Beech Wood and Park coppice, Hampstead Norris, but not very plentiful.—J.L. Highclere woods; Sidmonton lane.—J.B.

Primula véris, (common Cowslip or Paigle)

Hottónia palústris, (common Water-Violet or Featherfoil)

Hemp Hole near Newbury.

Menyánthes trifoliáta, (common Buckbean or Marsh Trefoil)

This is the most beautiful of English flowers: it grows in the pond in Lower Farm Close, Blewbury, amongst the rushes in Hagbourn moor, in a pond in Oare wood, and in many stagnant waters, but not very common. —J.L. Wash water, Bagnor marsh.—J.B.

Erythræa Centaúrium, (common Centaury)

Hyoscýamus níger, (common Henbane)

By road sides, but not common; on Burnt Hill common by a pond, in the street at Compton, in the Cow Lane at West Hagbourn, and in many other places.—J.L. Hamstead park, Midgham marsh, in a lane leading from the turnpike road to Burghclere parsonage.—J.B.

Atropa Belladónna, (common Dwale or deadly Nightshade)

In many places in the hill country; in Beech wood, in the ditch bank between Mr. Lousley's orchard and park coppice, Hampstead Norris; in Westbrook wood; in Unhill wood rather plentiful, but nowhere in the Vale, and not common any-where.—J.L. Hamstead Marshall churchyard and adjoining meadow.—Mr. Bicheno.

Solánum Dulcamára, (woody Nightshade or Bittersweet)

————nígrum, (common or Garden Nightshade)

In the lane by the tan-yard at the entrance into Wallingford, but it is a rare plant in this county.—J.L. Near Thatcham Farm.—Dr. Palmer.

Verbáscum Thápsus, (great Mullein)

In pastures, hedges, and woods about Hampstead Norris, but not very plentiful. A very fine plant when in perfection.—J.L.

Convólvulus arvénsis, (small Bindweed)

———— sépium, (great Bindweed)

Polemónium cærúleum, (blue Jacob's Ladder)

Vínca mínor, (lesser Periwinkle)

Sidmonton lane, near the common gate.—J.B.

Vínca májor, (greater Periwinkle)

On the bank round Martin's orchard and garden at Blewbury, by the footpath to East Hagbourn; in a hedge on Folly hill, near the White Hart, Hampstead Norris; and a few other places, but it is a rare plant.—J.L. Near Adbury.—J.B.

Jasióne montána, (annual Sheep's-bit or Sheep's-Scabious)

Blewbury and Ilsley downs.—J.L. Long Lane, near Hermitage common. —J.B

Campánula rotúndifolia, (round-leaved Bell-flower or Hare-bell)

A slender and graceful plant.

Campánula rotúndifolia, White-flowered Variety

Near North Heath.

Campánula Rapúnculus, (Rampion Bell-flower)

Pile Hill.

Campánula Trachélium, (Nettle-leaved Bell-flower)

In Beech wood and Park coppice, Hampstead Norris; in a hedge-row near Uahill farm; and many other places, but not very common.—J.L.

Campánula glomeráta, (clustered Bell-flower)

Common on Blewbury downs and Lid's bank, and most of the dry pastures on a chalky soil.—J.L. Plentiful near Watership.—J.B.

Campánula hýbrida, (Corn Bell-flower)

Corn-fields, North Heath.

Lonicéra Periclýmenum, (common Honey-suckle or Woodbine)
Rhámnus catháricus, (common Buckthorn)

In the woods and hedges about Hampstead Norris; in the hedge by the foot path up Chamberlain's hill; in the hedges in Upton grounds and common. —J.L.

Rhámnus Frángula, (Berry-bearing Alder or Alder Buckthorn)
Euónymus europæus, (common Spindle-tree)

Lane leading to North Heath.

Víola hírta, (hairy Violet)

In Park coppice and other woods about Hampstead Norris.—J.L. Bagnor.

Víola odoráta, (sweet Violet)
—— palústris, (Marsh Violet)

Bog on Snelsmore common.

Víola canína, (Dog's Violet)
—— trícolor, (Pansy Violet or Heart's Ease)
Ríbes rúbrum, (common or red Currant)

In hedge-rows about Hampstead Norris, but not common; frequently in the head of a pollard willow about Blewbury, supposed to have been propagated by birds, and not wild.—J.L.

Ríbes nígrum, (black Currant)

Grows plentifully in South meadow, East Hagbourn, on the banks of the brook—in a wild state very rare.—J.L.

Ríbes Grossulária, (common Gooseberry)

In hedges common, but not plentiful; in a hedge near Turville wood, Compton; in a hedge at Awbury hill, Hampstead Norris; and many other places.—J.L.

Hédera Hélix, (common Ivy)

Illécebrum verticillátum, (whorled Knot-grass)

Common in waste places and by road sides at Blewbury, and throughout the Vale.—J.L.

Gentiána Amarélla, (autumnal Gentian)

Watership.—J.B.

Gentiána campéstris, (Field Gentian)

Beacon Hill, Wash and Woodhay commons.—J.B.

Cúscuta europæa, (greater Dodder)

——— Epíthymum, (lesser Dodder)

Newtown and Greenham commons.—J.B.

Hydrocótyle vulgáris, (common White-rot Marsh Penny-wort)

Bog on Snelsmore common.

Hydrocótyle inundata

Bogs in Greenham common.

Sanícula europæa, (Wood Sanicle)

In Eling park and Down wood, Hampstead Norris; in a willow bed, Upton; in West Hagbourn meadow, but no where plentiful.—J.L.

Apium gravéolens, (Smallage or wild Celery)

In the ditches near Corderoy's mill, and in Church lane, near the vicarage, Blewbury; at Hagbourn and Upton. Not very plentiful.—J.L.

Síson Amómum, (Hedge Bastard Stone-Parsley)

About North Heath and other places.

Ægopódium Podagrária, (Gout-weed or Herb Gerarde)

In shady banks and orchards at Blewbury; in an orchard by Nail's bridge. Not very common.—J.L.

Conopodium flexuósum, (common Earth-Nut)

Plentiful in Park coppice, Hampstead Norris, and in many of the woods in that neighbourhood.—J.L.

Pimpinélla Saxífraga, (common Burnet-Saxifrage)

Sium latifólium, (broad-leaved Water-Parsnep)

In the ditches below Blewbury common.—J.L. Nort beroft.

Sium nodiflorum, (procumbent Water-Parsnep)
—— repens, (creeping Water-Parsnep)

Hamstead Park.

Bupleúrum rotundifólium, (common Hare's Ear or Thorow-wax)

On the ridge of hills above the Vale of Berks; on Robin hill, and on Long Meer piece, Blewbury; a pretty and curious plant, no where common or plentiful. It generally grows amongst wheat.—J.L.

Œnánthe fistulósa, (common Water-Dropwort)

Wash, Water.

Œnánthe crocáta, (Hemlock Water-Dropwort)

Near Thatcham, &c.

Æthúsa Cynápium, (common Fool's Parsley or lesser Hemlock)
Angélica sylvéstris, (wild Angelica)
Pastináca satíva, (common wild Parsnep)
Heráclcum Sphondýlium, (common Cow-Parsnep or Hogweed)
Daúcus Caróta, (wild Carrot)
Torílis Anthríscus, (upright Hedge-Parsley)
——— infésta, (spreading Hedge-Parsley)
Scándix Pécten, (Needle Chervil, Venus' Comb, or Shepherd's Needle
Anthríscus sylvéstris, (wild beaked-Parsley)
Conium maculátum, (common Hemlock)
Chenopódium Bonus Henrícus, (Mercury Goose-foot or good King Henry
Chenopódium rúbrum, (red Goose-foot)
———— álbum, (white Goose-foot)
Ulmus campéstris, (common small-leaved Elm)
——— suberósa, (common Cork-barked Elm)

Common in hedges in both hill and vale.—J.L.

Ulmus májor, (Dutch cork-barked Elm)

Common in many places, generally planted in streets and waste places and before houses; in the Cow lane, West Hagbourn; in the street, Aston, between Mr. Lousley's orchard and Park Coppice, Hampstead Norris. —J.L.

Ulmus montána, (broad-leaved or Wych Elm)
Vibúrnum Lantána, (mealy Guelder-rose or Wayfaring tree)

Hampstead Woods.

Vibúrnum Opulus, (common Guelder-rose or Water Elder)
Sambúcus Ebulus, (dwarf Elder or Dane-wort)

On a bank and by the road side near Cholsey churchyard. A rare plant. —J. L.

Sambúcus nígra, (common Elder)
Línum cathárticum, (purging Flax)
Drósera rotúndifolia, (round-leaved Sun-dew)

Bogs on Snelsmore and Cold-Ash commons, &c.

Drósera longifólia, (spathulate-leaved Sun-dew)

Bogs on Snelsmore and Cold-Ash commons, &c.

Myosúrus mínimus, (common Mouse-tail)

Corn-fields, North Heath.

HEXANDRIA, CLASS VI.

Péplis Pórtula, (Water Purslane)

North Heath.

Galánthus nivális, (Snowdrop)

Wild and abundant in a hedge-row near Eling, Hampstead Norris; on the bank in Richard Barns' orchard, and a few other places.—J.L. Lane leading to Enborne; meadow near the Bell, Boxford.—J.B.

Narcíssus Pseudo-narcíssus, (common Daffodil)

In an orchard near the churchyard, Hampstead; in Barns' orchard; in Mrs. Watts' orchard, Blewbury, and many other places, but not plentiful—J.L. Meadows at Highclere and East Woodhay.—J.B.

Convallária majális, (Lily of the Valley)

Enborne, Hamstead, and Pen woods.—J.B.

Convallária multiflóra, (common Solomon's Seal)

Plentiful in Park coppice, and Laycroft wood, Hampstead Norris, and in a few other places. A beautiful and rare plant.—J.L. Common in woods near Newbury.—J.B.

Allium vineále, (Crow Garlic)

In the corn-fields about Aston, amongst wheat; in the wet lands between Moreton and Mackney. Quite a nuisance and very injurious.—J.L. Corn-fields at High Woods and North Heath.

Allium ursínum, (broad-leaved Garlic or Ramsons)
——— Schænoprásum, (Chive Garlic)

In a meadow called Hor[illegible] Croft, at Blewbury, and in some other moist meadows [illegible]

Ornithógalum pyrenáicum, (spiked Star of Bethlehem)

Plentiful in Ashridge wood, Ilsley; in the woods between Compton and Hampstead Norris; in Beech wood.—J. L. Near Langley.—Dr. Lamb.

Hyacínthus non-scríptus, (wild Hyacinth or Hare-bell)

Múscari racemósum, (Starch Grape-Hyacinth)

Watson's Botanist's Guide.

Narthécium ossifragum, (Lancashire Bog-Asphodel)

Snelsmore and Woodhay commons.—J.B.

Fritillária Meleágris, (common Fritillary)

In a meadow called Thorn Croft, Blewbury; in a meadow by Burghfield bridge. A beautiful and rare plant.—J. L.

Júncus conglomerátus, (common Rush)

——— acútiflorus, (sharp-flowered jointed Rush)

——— lampocárpus, (shining-fruited jointed Rush)

——— obtusiflórus, (blunt-flowered jointed Rush)

Cold-Ash common.

Júncus uliginósus, (lesser Bog jointed Rush)

Snelsmore common.

Júncus bufónius, (Toad Rush)

——— squarrósus, (Heath Rush)

Rúmex Hydrolápathum, (great Water Dock)

——— crispus, (curled Dock)

Common in damp shady places about Blewbury and Hagbourn.—J. L.

Rúmex sanguíneus, (bloody-veined and (β.) green-veined Dock)

Before some of the door-ways and in the gardens at Blewbury.—J. L.

Rúmex acútus, (sharp Dock)

Ham Marsh.

Rúmex obtúsifolius, (broad-leaved Dock)

Common about Blewbury and Hampstead Norris, in moist places.—J. L.

Rúmex acetósa, (common Sorrel)

——— acetosélla, (Sheep's Sorrel)

Triglóchin palústre, (Marsh Arrow-grass)

Bagnor Marsh.

Cólchicum autumnále, (common Meadow-Saffron)

In Ashridge wood, East Ilsley; in a hedge-row near Hatch Gate, Hampstead Norris. Not common.—J. L. In a meadow near Burghclere parsonage, very plentiful.—J. B.

Alísma Plantágo, (greater Water-Plantain)
——— ranunculoídes, (lesser Water-Plantain)

OCTANDRIA, CLASS VIII.

Acer Pseudo-plátanus, (greater Maple or Sycamore)

Grows in Lower Farm Close, Blewbury; in Mr. Lousley's orchard, Hampstead Norris; and in hedges in many places, but nowhere very plentiful. —J.L.

Acer campéstre, (common Maple)

This tree is very common in the woods and hedges about Hampstead Norris, and grows plentifully in Park coppice; also about Blewbury and Hagbourn —the wood is beautiful when cut out.—J.L.

Chlóra perfoliáta, (perfoliate Yellow-wort)

Chalk-pit above Watership.—J.B.

Eríca Tétralix, (Cross-leaved Heath)
——- cinérea, (fine-leaved Heath)
Callúna vulgáris, (common Ling)
Vaccínium Myrtíllus, (Bilberry or Whortleberry)

Plentiful in Eling park, Hampstead Norris; Grimsbury castle; and in several other woods, but not very common.—J.L. Pen wood.—J.B.

Epilóbium angustifólium, (Rose-bay Willow-herb, Persian, or French Willow)

Road side, Woodhay common.—J.B.

Epilóbium hirsútum, (great hairy Willow-herb)
———— parviflórum, (small-flowered hairy Willow-herb)

Common about Blewbury; and at Hampstead Norris between Mr. Lousley's orchard and Frilsham.—J.L.

Epilóbium montánum, (broad smooth-leaved Willow-herb)
———— palústre, (narrow-leaved Marsh Willow-herb)
Dáphne Mezéreum, (common Mezereon or Spurge-Laurel)

Park coppice and Frilsham common are the only places I know, where this shrub grows wild.—J.L.

Dáphne Lauréola, (Spurge-Laurel)

Beech wood, Park coppice, and other woods about Hampstead Norris—this plant is so much sought for by quacks that it is getting quite scarce; it is a beautiful plant. — J.L. Welford Woods.—Mr. Bicheno.

Polýgonum Bistórta, (Bistort or Snakeweed)

A very rare plant: grows plentifully in an orchard by the churchyard, Blewbury; in an orchard near Nail's bridge; and in parsonage orchard—a pretty flower.—J.L. Field near Wickham chapel; Zellhouse, East Woodhay. —J.B.

Polýgonum aviculáre, (Knot-grass)
————Convólvulus, (climbing Buck-wheat)
————amphíbium, (amphibious Persicaria)
————Persicária, (spotted Persicaria)
————lapathifólium, (pale-flowered Persicaria)
————Hydrópiper, (biting Persicaria)

Páris quadrifólia, (common Herb Paris)

In a wood between Southridge farm and the Grotto, Basildon—a rare plant.—J.L. Near Hamstead Marshall.—Mr. Turner.

Adóxa moschatéllina, (tuberous Moschatell)

In Williams' copse, East Ilsley, and some other woods.—J.L. Woods about Welford.—J.B.

ENNEANDRIA. CLASS IX.

Bútomus umbellátus, common Flowering-rush

Northcroft and other streams near Newbury.—J.L.

DECANDRIA. CLASS X.

Scleránthus annuus, annual Knawel

Corn-fields, North Heath.

Chrysosplenium oppositifólium, (common Golden-saxifrage)

Sidmonton Lane, edge of the spring near the wood.

Saxífraga granulata, white Meadow Saxifrage

Sandleford park.

Saxífraga tridactýlites, (rue-leaved Saxifrage)

Plentiful on dry walls at Basildon, and on the old wall at the end of the churchyard, Blewbury.—J.L.

Saponária officinális, common Soapwort

In Mr. Brown's orchard, Basildon, on the side of the road, and on the Bath road, Speen.—a rare plant.—J.L.

Siléne infláta, (Bladder Campion)

Common in pastures and dry banks at Hampstead Norris and Blewbury —J.L.

Siléne quinquevúlnera, (variegated Catchfly)

"Corn-fields."—Watson's Botanist's Guide.

Stellária média, (common Chickweed or Stitchwort)
————holóstea, (greater Stitchwort)
————gramínea, (lesser Stitchwort)
————glaúca, (glaucous Marsh Stitchwort)

Water-side near Thatcham.

Stellária uliginósa, (Bog Stitchwort)

Pen wood, &c.

Arenária serpýllifolia, (thyme-leaved Sandwort)
———— rúbra, (purple Sandwort)

East Woodhay, &c.

Cotylédon Umbilícus, (Wall Pennywort)

On the stone walls at Sutton and Culham, near Abingdon.—J.L.

Sédum Teléphium, (Orpine or Live-long)

Grows plentifully in Ashridge wood, East Ilsley, and in a few other places —a rare plant.—J.L. Near Tile Barn, East Woodhay; opposite Crookham End House; and in the lane leading from Marlstone to Bucklebury.—J.B.

Sédum ácre, (biting Stonecrop or Wall Pepper)

Common on walls; on Mr. Lousley's garden wall, Hampstead Norris; on the mud walls about Blewbury; on the wall by Parsonage Farm.—J.L.

Oxális Acetosélla, (common Wood-sorrel)

In Westbrook and Laycroft woods, Hampstead Norris, and several others, but not very plentiful.—J.L. Plentiful in the woods on the south of Newbury.—J.B.

Agrostémma Githágo, (Corn Cockle)
Lýchnis Flos-Cúculi, (Meadow Lychnis or ragged Robin)
———— dioíca, (red or white Campion) varieties, *α*, *β*, and *g*.
Cerástium vulgátum, (broad-leaved Mouse-ear Chickweed)
———— viscósum, (narrow-leaved Mouse-ear Chickweed)
———— aquáticum, (Water Chickweed)

Near Brimpton Farm

Spergula arvénsis, (Corn Spurrey)

Spérgula nodósa, (knotted Spurrey)

Bagnor marsh.

Spérgula subuláta, (awl-shaped Spurrey)

Newtown.—Watson's Botanist's Guide.

DODECANDRIA, CLASS XI.

Lýthrum Salicária, (spiked purple-Loosestrife)

Ditches near the Thames about Goring, Streatley, Wallingford, and many places near Abingdon.—J.L. Common by the banks of streams running into the river Kennet.—J.B.

Agrimónia Eupatória, (common Agrimony)

Reséda Lutéola, (Dyer's Rocket, Yellow-weed, or Weld)

On the borders of Beech wood; on the banks by the road sides at Hampstead Norris and Blewbury, but not very plentiful or common.—J.L.

Reséda lútea, (base Rocket, Wild Mignonette)

On the roads and banks above Blewbury and Upton; on hedge banks about Hampstead Norris.—J.L. Near Bucklebury.—J.B.

Sempervívum tectórum, (common Houseleek)

On walls and housetops in nearly every village, planted to protect the building from lightning—good for the sting of a bee.—J.L.

ICOSANDRIA, CLASS XII.

Prúnus insitítia, (wild Bullace-tree)

In Beech wood and in some of the hedge-rows about Hampstead Norris; in Upton grounds; but not common.—J.L.

Prúnus spinósa, (Black-thorn or Sloe)

——— Cérasus, (wild Cherry)

Méspilus germánica, (common Medlar)

Sometimes in hedge-rows but not common: in a hedge by Purley. Mostly planted in orchards; in Mr. Lousley's orchard, Hampstead Norris.—J.L.

Cratægus Oxyacántha, (Hawthorn, White-thorn, or May)

Pýrus communis, (wild Pear-tree)

Woods and hedges about Aldworth and Hampstead Norris; in Beech wood; in the hedge-rows in Upton grounds, but nowhere common.—J.L.

Pýrus Málus, (Crab-apple)

———torminális, (Wild Service-tree)

In Beech wood, and in the row by Thistle field—a curious fruit.—J.L.

Pýrus aucupária, (Quicken-tree, Mountain-ash, or Rowan-tree)
———Aria, (white Beam-tree)

In Park coppice rather plentiful, in Beech wood; and other woods, but not very common.—J.L.

Spiræa Filipéndula, (common Dropwort)

Common on Blewbury and Ilsley downs, and a few other pastures.—J.L.

Spiræa Ulmária, (Meadow-sweet, Queen of the Meadows)
Rósa rubiginósa, (true Sweet-Briar)

In the hedges about Hampstead Norris—not very common in a wild state—J.L. Roadside from Newbury to Oxford near Snelsgrove.—Mr. Bicheno.

Rósa canína, (common Dog-Rose)
—— arvénsis, (trailing Dog-Rose)
Rúbus idæus, (Raspberry)

Pen wood.

Rúbus suberéctus, (upright Bramble)

Snelsmore common.

Rúbus rhamnifolius, (Buckthorn-leaved Bramble)
———fruticósus, (common Bramble or Blackberry)
———leucostáchys, (long-clustered Bramble)

Snelsmore common.

Rúbus Kochléri, (Kochler's Bramble)

Snelsmore common.

Rúbus corylifólius, (Hazel-leaved Bramble)
———cæsius, (Dewberry)

Plentiful in some of the ditches about Blewbury, and on banks in most meadows—the berries are much sought after by children.—J.L.

Fragária vésca, (Wood Strawberry)
Potentílla anserína, (Silver-weed)
———— réptans, (common creeping Cinque-foil)
———— Fragariástrum, (Strawberry-leaved Cinque-foil)
Tormentílla officinális, (common Tormentil)
Géum urbánum, (common Avens, Herb Bennet)
———rivale, (Water Avens)

North-east.

POLYANDRIA, CLASS XIII.

Papáver Argemóne, (long prickly-headed Poppy)

Corn-fields, North Heath.

Papáver Rhœas, (common red Poppy)

Chelidónium május, (common Celandine)

On banks and waste places about Blewbury, Hampstead Norris, and Compton, but not plentiful or common.

Heliánthemum vulgáre, (common Rock-rose)

Very common on all the downs and dry banks at Blewbury, Compton, and Hampstead Norris.—J.L.

Tilia europæa, (common Lime or Linden-tree)

Common in almost every village; often planted before houses about Blewbury, in the Vale, and at Hermitage—bees are very fond of it.—J.L.

Nymphæa álba, (great White Water-Lily)

Wash Water.

Núphar lútea, (common Yellow Water-Lily)

Northcroft.

Aquilégia vulgáris, (common Columbine)

Common in some of the woods about Hampstead Norris, particularly in Beech wood.—J.L. Woods and thickets about West Woodhay.—Mr. Bicheno.

Thalictrum flávum, (common Meadow-Rue)

Ham marsh.

Clématis Vitálba, (common Traveller's Joy)

Very common in the hedges at Hampstead Norris, and many other places.—J.L.

Anemóne Pulsatílla, (Pasque-flower Anemone)

A beautiful and rare plant: on the downs near Unhill wood plentiful; on the downs between Ilsley and Compton, but scarce.—J.L.

Anemóne nemorósa, (Wood Anemone)

Adónis autumnális, (Corn Adonis or Pheasant's Eye)

Sometimes found in the corn-fields about Yattendon and Frilsham—I have once or twice met with it on the hill called Wayley, at Hampstead Norris, but it is a rare plant in this part of the country.—J.L.

Ranúnculus aquátilis, (Water Crowfoot)

———— hederáceus, (Ivy Crowfoot)

———— Flámmula, (lesser Spear-wort)

Scrophulária vernális, (yellow Figwort)

Common about Bucklebury and Marlstone.

Digitális purpúrea, (purple Foxglove)

Very common in some of the woods about Hampstead Norris; plentiful in Park coppice and Down wood.—J.L. Very abundant in Pen wood.—J.B.

Verbéna officinális, (common Vervain)

Common in pastures and in waste places at Hampstead Norris and Blewbury; in Mr. Lousley's yard near the churchyard.—J.L. Itchinswell; and near Bucklebury parsonage.—J.B.

Orobánche májor, (greater Broom-rape)

On the banks about Hermitage; by the side of the road in Long lane, near the gate.—J.L. North end of Snelsmore common.

Orobánche mínor, (lesser Broom-rape)

Common in clover-fields.

TETRADYNAMIA, CLASS XV.

Corónopus Ruéllii, (common Wart-cress, Swine's cress)

On waste ground about Blewbury, but not common; near Chance barn.—J.L.

Thláspi arvénse, (Mithridate Mustard or Penny-cress)

High corn-fields near Shaw.

Capsélla Búrsa-Pastóris, (common Shepherd's Purse)

Ibéris amára, (bitter Candy-tuft)

Very plentiful on the hills above Mr. Humfrey's farm, Blewbury.—J.L.

Lepídium latifólium, (broad-leaved Pepper-wort)

Peat-pits about Newbury.

Cochleária Armorácia, (Horse-radish)

In Mr. Lousley's orchard, Hampstead Norris.—J.L. Perhaps the outcast of the garden.

Drába vérna, (common Whitlow-grass)

Cardamíne amára, (bitter Lady's Smock)

In the meadows about Blewbury, but not very common.—J.L. Chamberhouse coppice.

Cardamíne praténsis, (common Meadow Lady's Smock)

——— hirsúta, (hairy Lady's Smock)

Barbaréa vulgáris, (bitter Winter-cress, yellow Rocket)

Nastúrtium officinále, (Water-Cress)
Sisýmbrium officinále, (common Hedge-Mustard)

Very plentiful by the road sides at Blewbury, and in most places.—J.L.

Erýsimum Alliária, (Garlic Treacle-mustard, Jack-by-the-hedge, or Sauce-alone)
Cheiránthus Cheíri, (common Wall-flower)

On old stone walls about Drayton and Sutton.—J.L.

Sinápis arvénsis, (wild Mustard, Charlock)
——— álba, (white Mustard)
——— nígra, (common Mustard)

North Heath.

MONADELPHIA, CLASS XVI.

Geránium phæum, (dusky Crane's-bill)

Near sir J. Fellowes', Adbury.

Geránium praténse, (blue Meadow Crane's-bill)

On the borders of meadows about Blewbury, but not very plentiful.—J.L.
Lane leading from the turnpike road to Burghclere parsonage.—J.B.

Geránium pyrenáicum, (Mountain Crane's-bill)

Near the Blue Boar, North Heath.

Geránium lúcidum, (shining Crane's bill)

About Hagbourn and Blewbury, but not common.—J.L.

Geránium robertiánum, (stinking Crane's bill or Herb-Robert)
———— mólle, (Dove's-foot Crane's-bill)
———— pusíllum, (small-flowered Crane's bill)
———— disséctum, (jagged-leaved Crane's-bill)
Málva sylvéstris, (common Mallow)
———rotundifólia, (dwarf Mallow)
———moschàta, (Musk Mallow)

DIADELPHIA, CLASS XVII.

Fumária officinális, (common Fumitory)
Polýgala vulgáris, (common Milkwort)
Ulex europæus, (common Furze, Whin, or Gorse)
—— nánus, (dwarf Furze)

North Heath and other places.

Apárgia híspida, (rough Hawkbit)
——— autumnális, (autumnal Hawkbit)
Thríncia hírta, (hairy Thrincia)
Hierácium Pilosélla, (common Mouse-ear Hawkweed)
———sylváticum, (Wood Hawkweed)

Snelsmore, Fence wood, &c.

Hierácium sabaúdum, (shrubby broad-leaved Hawkweed)

Cold-Ash common.

Hierácium umbellátum, (narrow-leaved Hawkweed)

Snelsmore, Fence wood.

Crépis tectórum, (smooth Hawk's beard)
Hypochœris radicáta, (long-rooted Cat's-ear)
Lapsána commúnis, (common Nipple-wort)
Cichorium Intybus, (Wild Succory)
Arctium Lappa, (common Burdock)
Serrátula tinctória, (common Saw-wort)

Pen wood.

Cárduus nútans, (Musk Thistle)
——— acanthoídes, (welted Thistle)
——— tenuiflórus, (slender-flowered Thistle)
Cnícus lanceolátus, (Spear Plume-thistle)
———palústris, (Marsh Plume-thistle)
———arvénsis, (creeping Plume-thistle)
———erióphorus, (woolly-headed Plume-thistle)
———heterophýllus, (melancholy Plume-thistle)

Woodhay and Cold-Ash commons, Pen wood, &c.

Cnícus aculis, (dwarf Plume-thistle)

North Heath, Ilsley downs, &c.

Onopórdum Acánthium, (common Cotton-Thistle)

In the road side near the turnpike gate, West Hagbourn, and at East Ilsley.—J.L.

Carlína vulgáris, (common Carline)

North Heath.

Bidens cérnua, (nodding Bur-marigold)

Wash water.

Bidens tripartíta, (trifid Bur-marigold)

Bagnor marsh.

Eupatórium cannábinum, (common Hemp-agrimony)

Tanacétum vulgáre, (common Tansy)

By the mill-brook side in south Moreton common—a rare plant.—J.L.

Artemísia Absínthium, (common Wormwood)

At Appleford, and in the ditch round the walls at Silchester, but not very plentiful.—J.L.

Artemísia vulgáris, (Mugwort)

Gnaphálium dioícum, (Mountain Cudweed)

On Blewbury downs, and on the hills at Hampstead Norris.—J.L.

Gnaphálium uliginósum, (Marsh Cudweed)

North Heath.

Gnaphálium germánicum, (common Cudwead)

Conýza squarrósa, (Ploughman's Spikenard)

By the road sides and in Beech wood at Hampstead Norris, but not very plentiful.—J.L.

Tussilágo Fárfara, (Colt's-foot)

Petasítes vulgáris, (common Butter-bur)

Plentiful by the brook near Bugg's mill, near Abingdon; by the brook side between South Moreton and Wallingford; by the brook side between Frilsham and Bucklebury; and in Grace's and the Parsonage orchards, Blewbury. —J.L.

Senécio vulgáris, (common Groundsel)

Very common in the corn-fields about Blewbury, and in the gardens at Hampstead Norris and elsewhere—a troublesome weed.—J.L.

Senécio sylváticus, (Mountain Groundsel) var. β.

Road beyond Wash water.

Senécio tenuifólius, (hoary Ragwort)

Donnington road.

Senécio Jacobæa, (common Ragwort)

——— aquáticus, (Marsh Ragwort)

Solidágo Virgáurea, (common Golden-rod)

Cold-Ash common.

Pulicária dysentérica, (common Flea-bane)

Doróniсum Pardaliánches, (great Leopard's-bane)

Sidmonton lane.—J.B.

Béllis perénnis, (common Daisy)

Alnus glutinósa, (common Alder)
Urtíca úrens, (small Nettle)

Common under mud walls at Blewbury, and under hedges in many places. —J.L.

Urtíca dioica, (great Nettle)

Abundant in every parish, and in nearly every pasture and meadow.—J.L.

Bryónia dioica, (red berried Bryony)
Myriophýllum verticillátum, (whorled Water Milfoil)

River Lambourn.

Sagittária sagittifólia, (common Arrow-head)

Northcroft.

Arum maculátum, (Cuckow-pint or Wake-robin)
Potérium Sanguisórba, (common Salad-Burnet)

Plentiful on Lid's bank, Blewbury; in dry pastures at Hampstead Norris; in Mr. Lousley's orchard, Hampstead Norris, and in most other parishes. —J.L.

Quércus Róbur, (common British Oak)
——— sessiliflóra, (sessile-fruited Oak)

Watson's Botanist's Guide.

Fágus sylvática, (Beech Tree)
Castánea vulgáris, (Spanish Chesnut)

Near the great house, Langley; in Mr. Lousley's orchard, Hampstead Norris, and in many places, but not plentiful.—J.L.

Bétula álba, (common Birch)
Carpínus Bétulus, (Hornbeam)

In Beech wood, but not common—a rare tree in this part of the country. —J L.

Córylus Avellána, (common Hazel-nut)
Pínus sylvéstris, (Scotch Fir)

Very common at Hampstead Norris; grows by thousands from self-sown seed in Eling and Courage commons, and in many other places.—J.L.

DIOECIA, CLASS XXII.

Sálix frágilis, (crack Willow)

Very common by brook sides at Blewbury, Upton, and in all the villages in the Vale of Berks; in Mr. Lousley's orchard, Hampstead Norris; and in many meadows.—J.L.

Sálix vitéllina, (yellow Willow or golden Osier)

By the ditch in Mrs. Watts' orchard, Blewbury—a beautiful and rare willow.—J.L.

Sálix fúsca, (dwarf silky Willow)

Sidmonton bog.

Sálix fúsca, var. β.

Greenham common.

Sálix viminális, (common Osier)

Plentiful at Blewbury and many other villages.—J.L.

Víscum álbum, (common Misseltoe)

Plentiful in the orchards at Bucklebury; in Mr. Lousley's orchard, Hampstead Norris; at Appleford; on the apple trees at Mr. Humfrey's, Boxford, and several other places—a curious plant.—J.L. Sidmonton.

Myríca Gále, (sweet Gale or Dutch Myrtle)

Abundant in Sidmonton common; near the School, Highclere; and in bogs at East Woodhay.—J.B. This plant diffuses a most agreeable smell.

Húmulus Lúpulus, (common Hop)

Támus commúnis, (common Black Bryony)

Pópulus álba, (great white Poplar or Abele)

————canéscens, (grey Poplar)

Very common at Blewbury, and most of the villages in the Vale; in Mr. Lousley's orchard, and in Scottal meadow, Hampstead Norris.—J.L.

Pópulus trémula, (Aspen)

Mercuriális perénnis, (perennial or Dog's Mercury)

Juníperus commúnis, (common Juniper)

Very plentiful in the downs near Unhill wood; Streatley hill; Basildon; and many other places.—J.L. Chalk-pit, Watership Siddown hill.—J.B.

Táxus baccáta, (common Yew)

Plentiful in Beech wood, and in many other woods and hedges about Compton, Aldworth, and Hampstead Norris.—J.L.

POLYGAMIA, CLASS XXIII.

Atriplex pátula, (spreading Halberd-leaved Orache)

————angustifólia, (spreading narrow-leaved Orache)

CRYPTOGAMIA, CLASS XXIV.

Polypódium vulgáre, (common Polypody)

Aspídium lobátum, (close-leaved prickly Shield-fern)

Sidmonton.

Aspídium Fílix mas, (male Shield-fern)

Scolopéndrium vulgáre, (common Hart's-tongue)

A curious, beautiful, and rare plant; in the sides of some of the wells at Blewbury and Hagbourn; also at Langley great house, Hampstead Norris. —J.L.

Ptéris aquilína, (common Brake)

Common in all the sandy and poor woods and pastures; plentiful in Elinz common, and in Beech wood.—J.L.

Ophioglóssum vulgátum, (common Adder's tongue)

A beautiful and curious plant; plentiful in some of the meadows between Blewbury and Hagbourn; in Thorn Croft meadow, Blewbury.—J.L.

Lycopódium inundátum, (Marsh Club-moss)

Equisétum fluviátile, (great Water Horse-tail)

Between Greenham common and Thatcham.

Equisétum arvénse, (Corn Horse-tail)

———— sylváticum, (branched Wood Horse-tail)

———— limósum, (smooth naked Horse-tail)

In the ditches and wet meadows below Blewbury; in Lower Farm Close. —J.L.

Equisétum palústre, (Marsh Horse-tail)

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